

1

QQ Sweeper

Story & Art by KYOUSUKE MOTOMI



1

QQ Sweeper

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QQ Sweeper

1

Sweep 1 — 3

Sweep 2 — 55

Sweep 3 — 91



Sweep 4 — 123

Sweep 5 — 155

AS LONG AS THEY'RE ALIVE, PEOPLE KEEP GETTING DIRTY.

IT'S NOT YOUR FAULT.



DON'T WORRY. WE'LL GET YOU CLEANED UP...

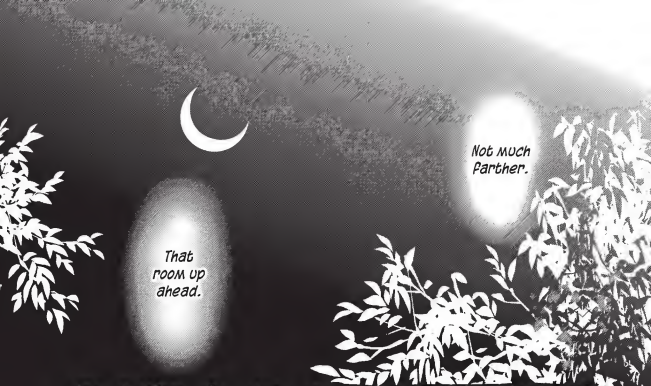
...BEFORE YOUR MEMORIES OF THAT DEAR GIRL DISAPPEAR,
COVERED IN DUST.



SWEEP 1

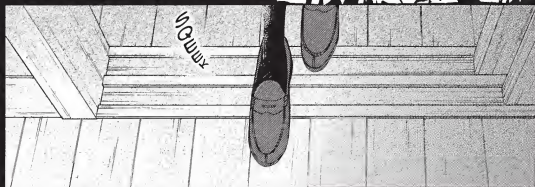
Hi there.
I'm Kyoussuke
Motomi. Thank you
so much for picking
up this volume
of *QQ Sweeper*.
I hope you enjoy
this weird story
about cleaning and
read it to the end.



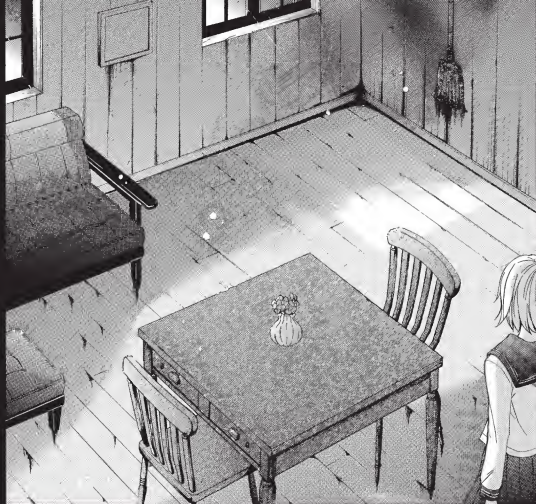


*That
room up
ahead.*

*Not much
farther.*



*This
one.*

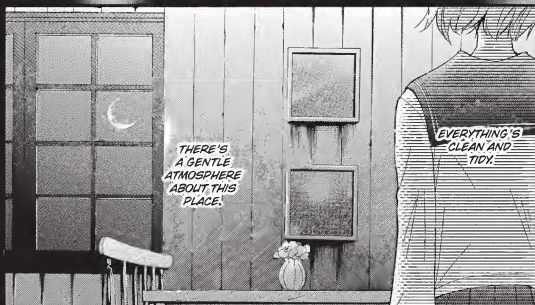


...IN A
GOOD
WAY.

THIS
ROOM
SMELLS
OLD...

NO
TRASH.

OLD
WOOD.



THERE'S
A GENTLE
ATMOSPHERE
ABOUT THIS
PLACE.

EVERYTHING'S
CLEAN AND
TIDY.



...WITH
CARE.

SOMEONE
LOVES THIS
ROOM AND IS
PROTECTING
IT...

That's
right.





*...your
new life
begins.*

*This is
where...*

Welcome.



CHRP..

CHRP..

HELLO?



USUJI

WHATEVER,
I ALWAYS
MAKE IT. CAN YOU
WASH THE
DISHES?

THANKS FOR
BREAKFAST.
IT WAS
GREAT!

YEAH.

ARE
YOU AT
SCHOOL
ALREADY
?

MORNING,
Q! SORRY
I OVER-
SLEPT
AGAIN.



WAIT,
KOICHI.

OKAY,
THEN
I'LL
SEE
YOU...

WHAT
IS IT,
Q?



USUJI

HEY, SENDAI
SAID THAT
BUSINESS
IS COMING
TO A HEAD.

MORE
INSISTENT
THAN
EVER...

I KNOW.
I'LL TAKE
CARE OF
IT. DON'T
WORRY.



OH, I'M
INTERVIEW-
ING PEOPLE
FOR THE
HOUSE-
KEEPER
POSITION
TODAY.

WELL, YOU
ALWAYS
HAVE A
HARD TIME,
RIGHT?

WHAT?
YOU DIDN'T
TELL ME.



I TOLD YOU
BEFORE—
DON'T CALL
ME. Q.

Kurokado Private High School,
Second-Year Beautification
Committee Member

Kyutaro Horikita

OKAY,
OKAY...

DON'T
DISREGARD
THE DELI-
CATE FEEL-
INGS OF A
GUY IN
HIS LATE
TEENS!

AND THE
NEXT TIME
YOU DO IT,
I'LL SHOVE
CUCUMBERS
UP YOUR—

WHAT'S
WRONG
WITH IT?
IT'S CUTE...











THIS
WAS
OUR...

WHO...

...ARE
...YOU
?







2-D

OH, I'M
SORRY...

WHERE
ARE MY
MANNERS?
I'M NEW
HERE...

MS.
NISHIOKA IS
OUR NEW
TRANSFER
STUDENT.

I'M SURE
YOU WILL
ALL GET
ALONG.



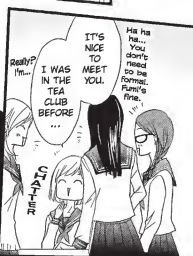
I'M
FROM THE
COUNTRY,
AND IT WAS
NOTHING
LIKE THIS.

THERE'S SO
MUCH TO
LEARN IN
THE CITY.

IT'S NICE
TO MEET
YOU ALL.

Kurokado Private High School
Transfer Student,
Second-Year

Fumi Nishioka





CHACHING CHACHING

Cologne: Designer

Does anyone else feel that?

Wristwatch: Designer
(About \$1,200)

I DON'T GO FOR SHALLOW GUYS LIKE HIM, BUT...

I CAN ALMOST SMELL THE TRUST FUND. HERE'S MY CHANCE...

Necklace: Designer

Estimated Worth

Heh heh...

ANYWAY! THE GAME'S JUST STARTED, AND I'M GOING TO WIN!

A PLEASURE, MR. SAKAGUCHI.

GIGGLE

HA HA, YEAH, YOU'RE A REAL LADY, HUH.

MY GOAL IS TO FIND MY...

...PRINCE CHARMING!

OR AT LEAST A NICE GOOSE TO LAY A GOLDEN EGG.

EVEN THOUGH THAT DOESN'T MAKE SENSE BECAUSE HE'D BE A GANDER....



MY
TREAT,
NISHIOKA.
IT'LL
BE A
WELCOME
PARTY...



DIDN'T
I TELL
YOU TO
SHUT IT,
UGLY?

WANNA
KARAOKE
AFTER
SCHOOL?
I'LL BRING
SOME
FRIENDS.

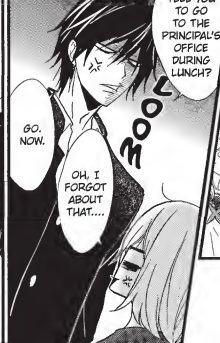
SAKA-
GUCHI!!
YOUR
NEW
FRIENDS
AREN'T—



HORIKITA,
QUIT
GETTING
IN MY
WAY.

YOU'RE
ALWAYS—

SAKA-
GUCHI!
...



GO.
NOW.

OH, I
FORGOT
ABOUT
THAT....

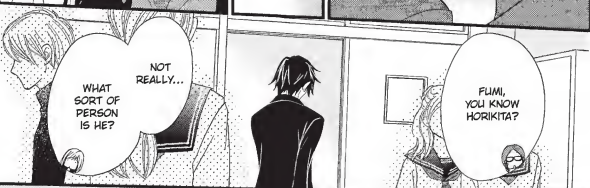
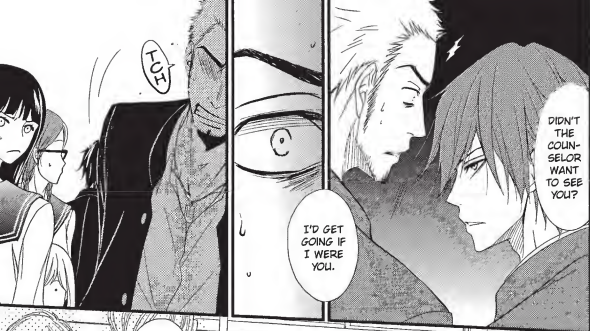


DIDN'T I
TELL YOU
TO GO
TO THE
PRINCIPAL'S
OFFICE
DURING
LUNCH?

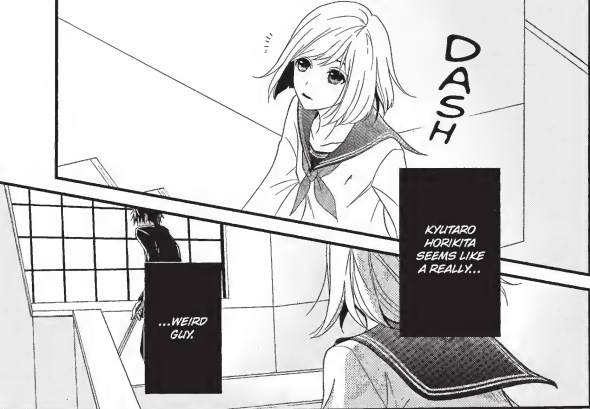
I
HAVE
TO
TALK
TO THE
NEW
STU-
DENT.

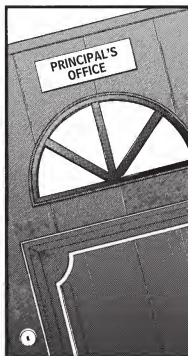
MOVE.

WHAT,
HORIKITA
?









WERE YOU
SLEEPING
IN THE OLD
SCHOOL
BUILDING
THIS
MORNING?

Kurokado Private
High School
Principal and Chairman
Koichi Kitagawa

I DON'T
KNOW...

I WAS
JUST
WALKING
AROUND...

I'M
SORRY.

SO IT'S
TRUE.

WHA...?!
HOW DID
YOU...?!

DID THAT
JANITOR
GUY TELL
YOU?!

And
yes,
it was
that
janitor
guy."

G A F F

NEXT
THING I
KNOW,
IT'S
MORNING
...

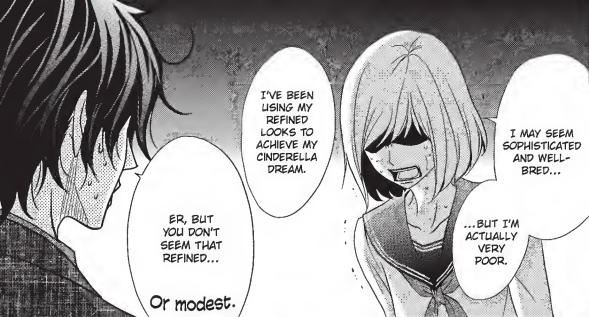
...AND
I WAN-
DERED
INTO
THAT
ROOM.

I'M NOT
ANGRY,
JUST
SURPRISED.
WHY
THERE?

SIR?

MS.
NISHIOKA
...





I'VE BEEN
USING MY
REFINED
LOOKS TO
ACHIEVE MY
CINDERELLA
DREAM.

I MAY SEEM
SOPHISTICATED
AND WELL-
BRED...

ER, BUT
YOU DON'T
SEEM THAT
REFINED...

Or modest.

...BUT I'M
ACTUALLY
VERY
POOR.



No
sleeping
outside
or at
24-hour
places.

WHERE
DO YOU
PLAN TO
STAY
IN THE
MEAN-
TIME?

UM...
WELL...



CAN I STAY
IN THAT
ROOM
AGAIN?
JUST FOR
TONIGHT?



PLEASE
DON'T
EXPEL
ME.

I'LL FIND
A JOB...
AND A
PLACE
TO STAY.

SOON...
I KNOW
IT!



THANK
GOD!

What a
relief!

They
must've
paid it
before
they
skipped
town.

YES,
WELL...
WE DID
GET YOUR
TUITION
FOR THE
YEAR.



MOST STUDENTS ARE TOO SCARED TO EVEN GO NEAR IT.

THINGS JUST "SHOW UP" THERE.

IF SOMEONE GOES IN ON A DARE, HE OR SHE USUALLY COMES OUT CRYING.



HUH?

YOU'RE NOT SCARED?

NO ONE'S TOLD YOU ABOUT THAT PLACE?



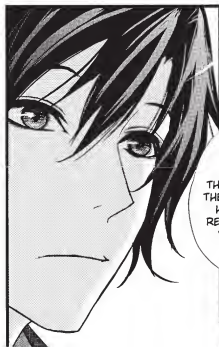
THEY CALL IT THE "HAUNTED MANSION."



I WASN'T SCARED.

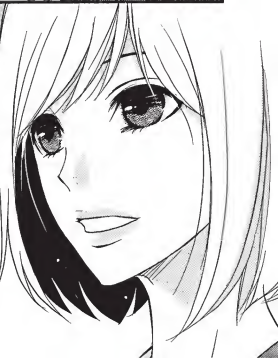
BEING ALONE AT NIGHT THERE...

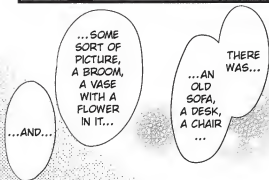
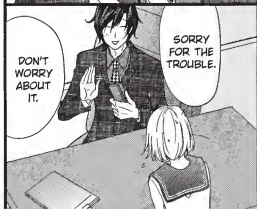
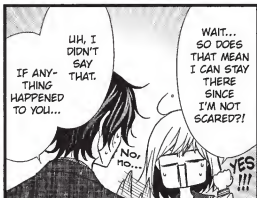
YOU DIDN'T THINK IT WAS CREEPY?

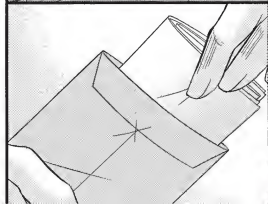
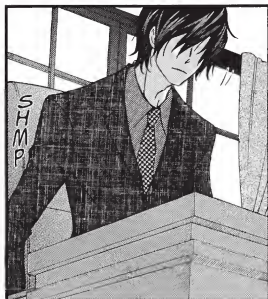


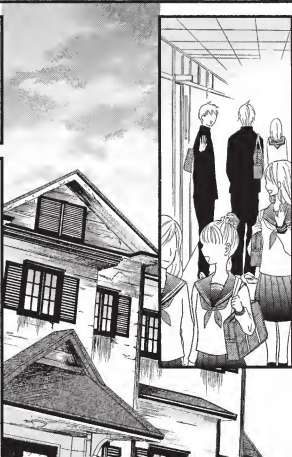
IN FACT...

...I THOUGHT THE PLACE HAD A RELAXING VIBE.

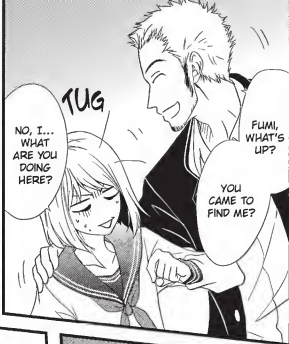














...THIS FELT
LIKE SUCH A
WONDERFUL
PLACE...

ZUN



I SAID,
DON'T
TOUCH
ME!!



DON'T
TOUCH
ME.

WE'RE
NICE
GUYS.
NOTHIN'
TO BE
SCARED
OF.

AW...
LET'S BE
FRIENDS,
FUMI.



"ALL
GOOD"...

CHILL.
IT'S
ALL
GOOD.

WHAT'S
WITH
THIS
WEIRDO?

...IS
IT?

B-
BMP

KLATTER



NO WAY
IN HELL
IS
ANYTHING
GOOD
HERE!



GET
OVER
HERE.

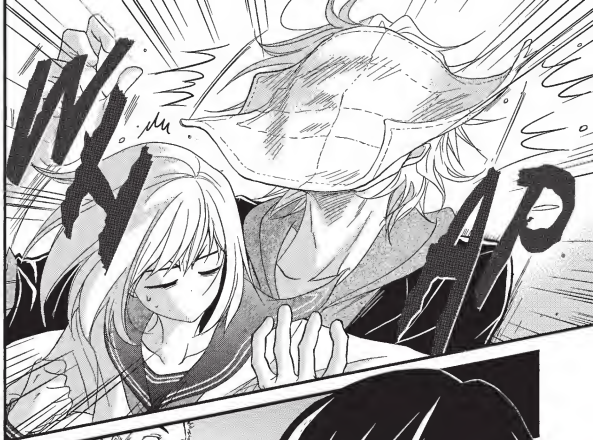
Y'ELL ALL
YOU WANT.
NO ONE'S
COMING...

GRAB

YOU'RE
TRIPPIN'
OUT,
CRAZY.

DON'T YOU
FEEL THE
BAD VIBES?
IT'S
HORRIBLE!

WHY
AREN'T
YOU
RUNNING?
YOU
SHOULD
BE
RUNNING!





WERE
YOU
THE
ONES
WHO
DID
THIS?

YOU.



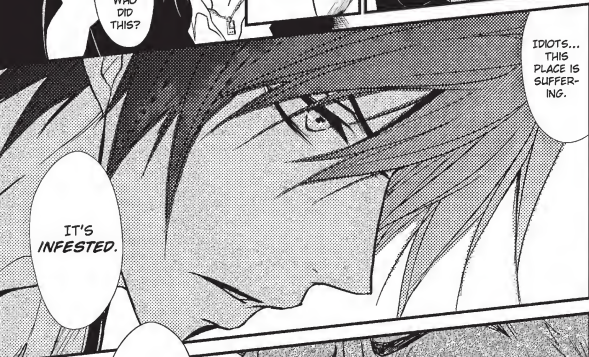
PSH. GO
CLEAN
THE
TOILET
THEN.



HORIKITA,
THE
CLEANING
GUY,
RIGHT?

WAIT.
IT'S...

HEY,
YOU!
STAY
OUTTA-



IDIOTS...
THIS
PLACE
IS
SUFFER-
ING.

IT'S
INFESTED.

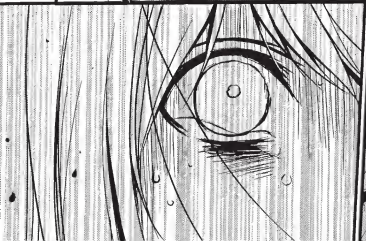


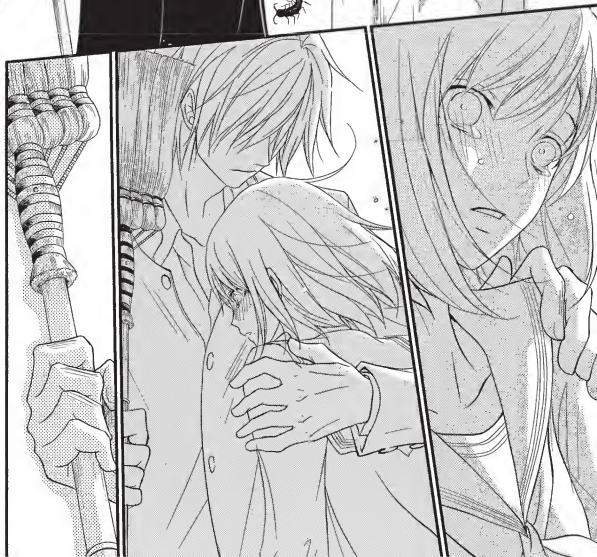
YOU'RE
INFESTED.



QUIT
TALKING
IN
RIDDLES!

WHAT A
FREAK!
WHAT'S
WITH
HIM?









RIGHT...
THAT
SHOULD
DO IT.

THEY'RE
GONE.
FOR
NOW.

GO
HOME.



JUST
GREAT...
HANG ON.



HEY,
YOU
OKAY?

I-I'M
SORRY.

I'M
DIZZY,
AND MY
LEGS
WON'T...



DON'T
COME
BACK.

AND...



WOW
WOW
WOW





YEAH.

ARE YOU
THE ONE
WHO
ALWAYS
CLEANS
THIS
ROOM?

STILL



BETTER TO
HAVE IT
BE CLEAN
THAN DIRTY,
RIGHT?

WHY?
BECAUSE.

WHY?

TAP



WHAT
WERE
THOSE
BUGS?



YOU'LL
FORGET
BY
MORNING.

NOTHING
TO WORRY
ABOUT.

JUST
BUGS...
WANDER-
ING.



MY MIND
WAS IN A
FOG.

I THOUGHT
THAT WAS
THE END
OF IT.

OH...



STUFF
LIKE
THAT.

THAT WALL
LOOKS A LI'L
DIFFERENT
TODAY.

I HAZILY
THOUGHT OF
RANDOM
THINGS...

Oh, well...
Guess it
doesn't
matter...

THERE WAS
SOMETHING
THERE...



...OR
CARRIED
ME IN HIS
ARMS...

HM...

...I THINK
THAT WAS
THE FIRST
TIME A GUY
HUGGED
ME...

COME
TO
THINK
OF IT...



...KEPT
RIGHT ON
CLEANING.

...KYUTARO
HORIKITA...

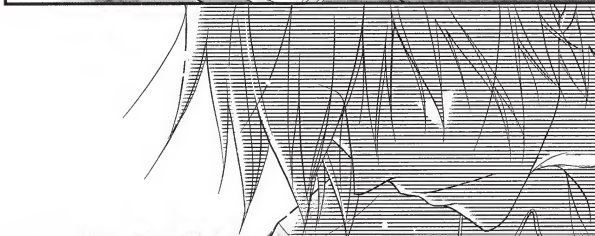
ANYWAY,
CLEANING
MASTER...



THAT
WAS IT.

HE GOT RID OF
THE TRASH...
SCRUBBED
THE FLOOR...

...THERE
WAS
NOTHING
SPECIAL
ABOUT IT.



IT
FEELS
GOOD
NOW.

BUT...

...THE AIR
CHANGED.



BUT
THOSE
THINGS...

...JUST
SEEM
TO PASS
ME BY.

THERE
ARE SOME
REALLY
STRANGE
THINGS IN
THE WORLD.



SO,
I'LL
NEVER...



HELP
ME...



Eh,
I can't
do it
on my
own.

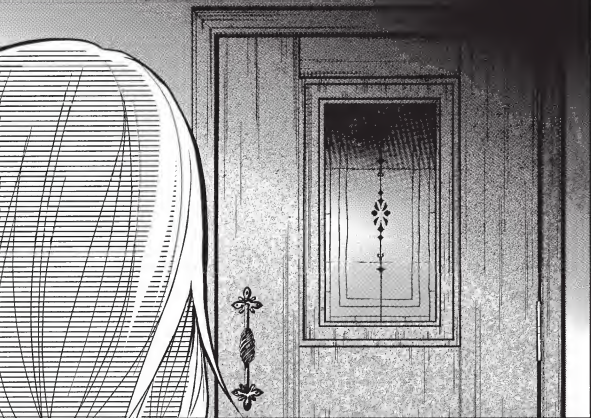
HE SAID
HE'D
GET ME
HOME...



I feel
rested.

OH...
I FELL
ASLEEP.

WHERE'D
HE GO?



THAT
WASN'T
THERE
BEFORE...

HUH?



IS
SOMEONE
THERE?

WHAT'S
WRONG...?



HELP
ME...

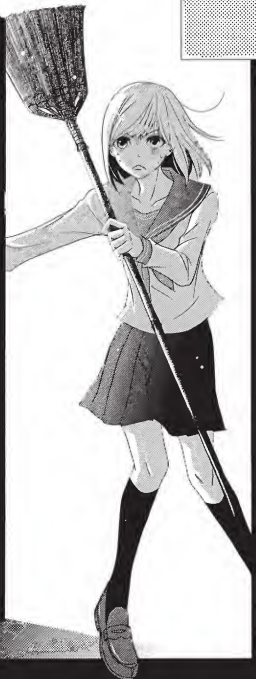
PLEASE...
HELP
ME...



BUT
INSTEAD...

THAT WAS
SUPPOSED TO
BE THE END
OF IT.

...I
STEPPED
INTO
SOMETHING
THAT WAS
CLEARLY
NOT A
DREAM.



This type of apron that covers the chest is called a "bib apron," I hear. The apron that Q has on in Sweep 4 is called a waist apron. In Japan, it's called a salon apron. They both look good, and I like them both.

Marimekko aprons are so cute.





SWEEP 2





In this series, my heroine has a small chest again. For a moment, I thought it might be nice to have a busty heroine, but I was afraid it might weaken the very essence of this mangaka. (Ahem...)

On a good day, barely a B cup. Her under-bust size → may be about 32 inches.





THIS DOOR
WASN'T
HERE A
SECOND
AGO.

SOMEONE'S
CALLING
FOR HELP,
BUT...

WAIT A
MINUTE.

SOME-
BODY...

HELP
ME...



NO...
NO
MORE...

WHY
IS
THIS
...?

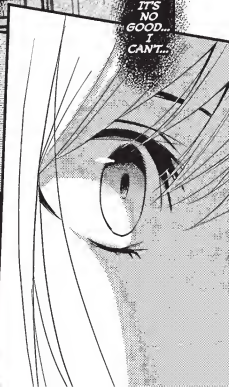
IT'S
NO
GOOD...
I
CAN'T...

HEY...

IT'S THAT
GUY IN MY
CLASS...

THAT
VOICE...

SAKAGUCHI
...?



WHAT
WERE
THOSE
THINGS?

IT IS
HAUNTED...

HYR

SHIA...A

F
W
S
H
H

NEVER
GOING
BACK
THERE...

"YOU'RE
INFESTED."

HA
HA...
HA HA
HA...

LOOK
AROUND,
COWARD.

LIAR...

YOU'VE
NOTICED
IT,
HAVEN'T
YOU?

THAT
GUY
GIVES
ME THE
CREEPS.

HE'S
FULL
OF IT...

SEEP



IT'S
OVER.

JUST
DIE.
THERE'S
NO
USE.

FOR A
FAILURE
LIKE
YOU.

SOMEBODY,
HELP ME...

I DIDN'T
WANT TO
SEE IT.

IS
THIS
THE
END?

IS IT
TOO
LATE?

SOMEBODY...

Junya,
why are
you
yelling?

SOME-
BODY...

If
you're
home-

PLEASE...

Junya
!!

What's
wrong?
Hang
on!

Junya

IT WAS
ALL MY
FAULT.

...HELP
ME...



IS THAT
YOU,
SAKA-
GUCHI?

W-
WHAT'S
WRONG?

PLEASE...
HURRY...



BUT
STILL...

I
CAN'T
TAKE
IT...

AH...

HE
JUST
RAN
AWAY.

IT
CAN'T
BE,
THOUGH...



ALL
OVER
FOR
ME...

NO
ONE
WANTS
TO
HELP...



IT'S
OVER...

I, MEAN,
WHAT
DO I
GET OUT
OF IT,
RIGHT?



IT'S NOT
LIKE I
HAVE TO
DO SOME-
THING.

IT SOUNDS
LIKE HE'S
BEGGING
FOR HELP...



UM...
HELLO
...?

THIS
IS WAY
WEIRD.

SOMEONE
SEEMS
TO BE IN
TROUBLE
...



IF IT
WASN'T
YOU, THEN
WHO...?

SOMEONE
WENT IN.

SENDAI JUST
TOLD ME
THAT THE
DOOR TO
THE VOID
IS OPEN.



NISHI-
OKA?

I LEFT
HER
ALONE
TO
REST.

I NEVER
THOUGHT
SHE'D...
IT'S MY
FAULT.

KYU-
Q...

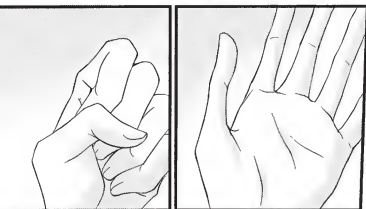
IT WAS
FUMI
NISHIOKA,
THE
TRANSFER
STUDENT.

KOICHI
...
YOU'RE
RIGHT.
THE
DOOR
IS
OPEN.



SAVE THE
LECTURE
FOR
LATER,
OKAY?

I'LL GO
GET
HER.



K-Z-T

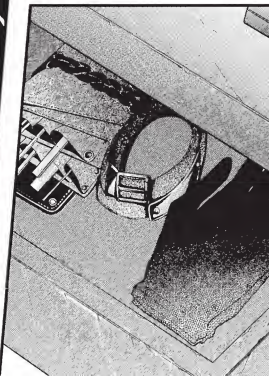
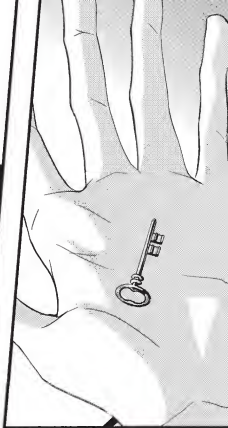
GOT IT.
I'LL BE
RIGHT
THERE.

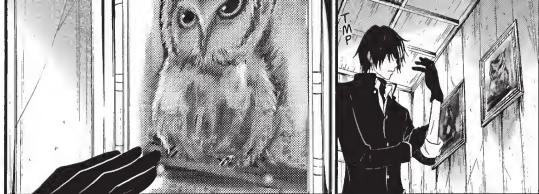
BE
CARE-
FUL.

KEEP
AN EYE
ON
THINGS
FOR
ME.



B-L-P





SENDAI,
I NEED
YOU.

SORRY FOR
THE RUSH.
THERE'S
TROUBLE.



I'M AWARE
OF THE
SITUATION.

WE HAVE
NO SPELLS.
DO YOU
HAVE A
HANDKER-
CHIEF OR
TISSUES AT
LEAST?

NOOD

LET'S
GO. I'M
WORRIED
ABOUT
THE
GIRL.

YEAH.

ALL
RIGHT.
SHALL
WE?

AND
LOTS OF
SALT?

YEP.

DO
YOUR
GREET-
ING.

UNFOR-
TUNATE,
BUT THESE
THINGS
HAPPEN.

U333



WE ARE
ENTERING
THE INSIDE
THROUGH
CENTRAL
GENBU GATE
NO. 4.

IT IS X
MONTH,
X DAY,
X YEAR,
6:26 P.M.

I AM
CUSTODIAN
OF THE
GENBU
GATE, IN
CHARGE
OF THE
CENTRAL
DISTRICT.

PARDON
THE
INTRUSION.

KYUTARO
HORIKITA,
ASSISTANT
TO THE
THIRTY-
EIGHTH
LEADER
OF THE
KITA CLAN.

THANK
YOU.

I AM HIS
SENDAI,
MIYAKO
HORIKITA.



JUST
GIVE ME
SOME
TIME...

I'M
DOING
THE
BEST
I CAN.

HEY
NOW...

NO
ONE...

B-
BMP



THIS IS A
TERRIBLE
IDEA. BUT
I KNEW
THAT...

I just
know
something's
here...

AND IT
GOES ON
FOREVER.

GAH...
IT'S SO
DARK...

...IS
COMING...



OKAY,
THAT'S
IT. I'M
GOING
BACK...

LINGH...



TUP

AAH!

OOF!

...TO
HELP
ME.

B-
BMP



B-
BMP

B.
BMP...

B.
BMP...



B-
BMP

WHAT IS
THIS PLACE?

B-
BMP

IT'S WARM.
AND...
PULSING?

THIS
GROUND
FEELS
FUNNY...

B-
BMP

A TUNNEL?

NO...
TOO
BIG FOR
THAT.

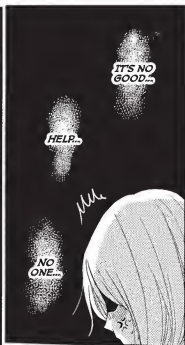
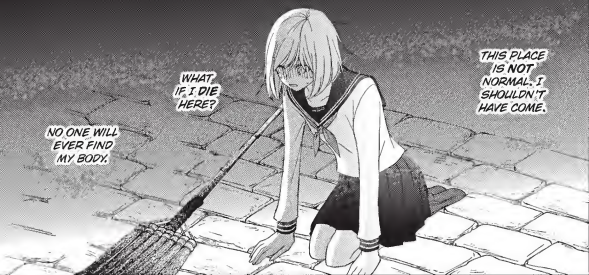
IS THIS
PART
OF THE
SCHOOL?

I CAN'T
REMEMBER...

OH NO...
WHICH
DOOR DID
I COME
FROM?

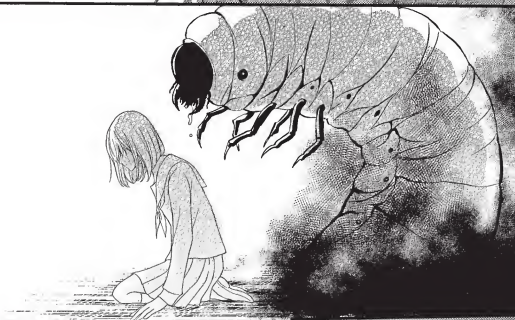
DON'T
TELL
ME I'M
STUCK
HERE!

WHAT
ARE ALL
THOSE
DOORS?



NO ONE
WILL MISS
ME...

...I'LL
HAVE NO
ONE TO
BLAME BUT
MYSELF.

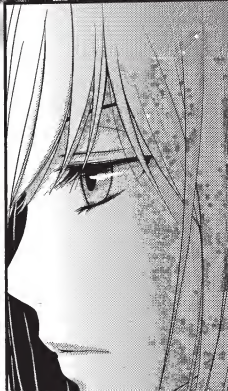


I HAVE
TO SAVE
SAKAGUCHI.

AFTER
ALL...

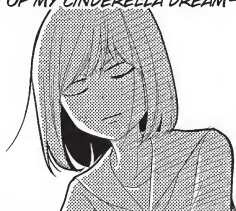
BUT
I...

...HAVE A
REASON TO
LIVE.



SAKAGUCHI IS MY POTENTIAL PRINCE CHARMING. IF I RESCUE HIM, I COME OFF AS A REFINED, DEPENDABLE AND COURAGEOUS YOUNG GIRL. RICH PEOPLE LOVE THE DEVOTED TYPE. IF I GET HURT SAVING HIM, SAKAGUCHI'S PARENTS WILL HAPPILY PAY MY HOSPITAL BILLS. THEY'LL COME VISIT ME. WE MAY EVEN GET FRIENDLY ENOUGH WHERE THEY'LL SAY, "OH, YOU HAVE NO FAMILY? WHY DON'T YOU COME AND LIVE WITH US AS OUR FUTURE DAUGHTER-IN-LAW?" IS THAT ASKING FOR TOO MUCH? I SHOULDN'T RUSH THINGS, HUH. IF THEY HAVE A GOOD IMPRESSION OF ME, THAT'S ENOUGH.

I MUST ALWAYS TRY MY BEST FOR
THE SAKE OF MY CINDERELLA DREAM-



THAT
GLY
SAVED
ME.

OH
YEAH...

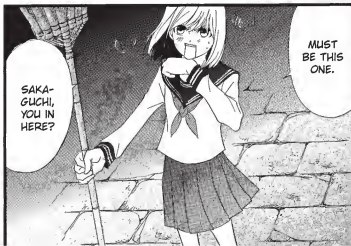


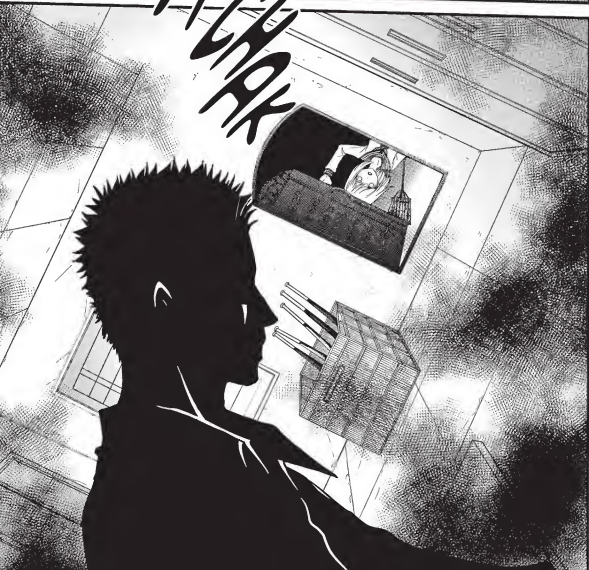
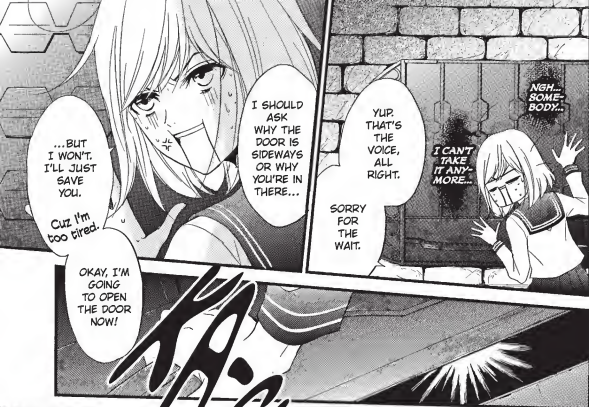
I WISH
I HAD.

I DIDN'T
GET A
CHANCE TO
THANK HIM,
REALLY.

SAKA-
GUCHI,
YOU IN
HERE?

MUST
BE THIS
ONE.







WHICH
WAY
IS...?

OH...

UM...



HUH?

THIS
LOOKS
LIKE A...
LOCKER
ROOM?



KLUNK-
LINK

NG...
OW...!

THUD



MUMBL
MUMBL

SAKAGUCHI
...?

I'M
USE-
LESS.

I'M
BETTER
OFF
DEAD.
I'M NO
USE.

TOO
LATE
FOR
ME.



OH...



UH...
SAKA-
GUCHI?

OW,
my
back...

IT'S
FUMI.
I'VE
COME
TO
HELP...



SLURP

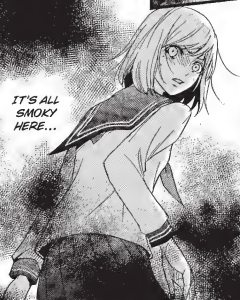
WHAT
THE...?



IT'S
TOO
LATE

FOR
ME

IT'S ALL
SMOKY
HERE...





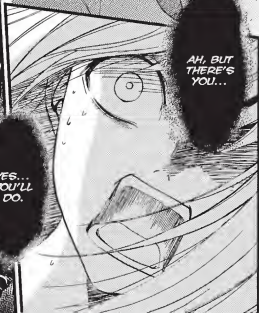
THAT
ONE'S
NO
GOOD.

HE'S
JUST
A
HUSK.
USE-
LESS
NOW.



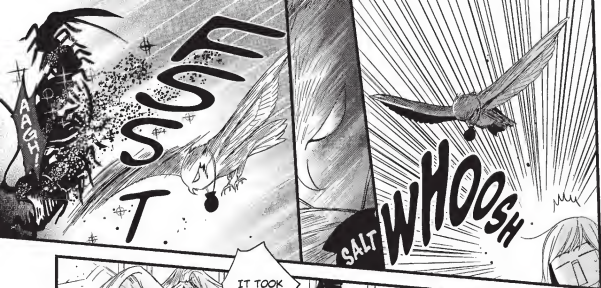
TIME
TO
FEAST
...

YES...
YOU'LL
DO.



AH, BUT
THERE'S
YOU...







BY
YOUR-
SELF,
KYU-
TARO?

SENDAI,
LOOK
AFTER
HER.
I'LL
CLEAN
UP.

IF I DON'T,
IT'LL BE
TOO LATE.
I CAN'T
LEAVE HIM.



HUH
...

SAKA-
GUCHI'S
MIND
VAULT
CALLED
YOU
HERE.

HE'S A
MESS...



VOO

I'LL
SLAUGH-
TER
YOU!

YOU
WANNA
FIGHT
MEP

YOU
...

you danger
hell world



NGH
...

AAAH!

AARGH
...



YOU
MIGHT
NOT
BELIEVE
THIS,
BUT...

...WE
ARE
INSIDE
HIS
MIND.



THIS IS
SAKA-
GUCHI'S...

...MIND
VAULT.



May I
perch
on your
shoulder?

NOT TO
WORRY.
I WILL
PROTECT
YOU.

YOU
MUST BE
TERRIFIED.



SO...
WHERE
ARE WE?

SORRY
FOR THE
TROUBLE...

A
TALKING
OWL...
FINE.





AH...

THE
SMOKE IS
CLEARING.

OH...
AS THE
PLACE
GETS
CLEAN,
THE
BUGS GO
AWAY...



THAT
INJURY
...

OH,
DEAR
...

KYU-
TARO'S
ENERGY
IS LOW.

IT'S
ALREADY
HARD FOR
ONE PERSON
TO WRANGLE
AND
PURIFY...



K-SHUT

UUU...





NO! THE
CENTI-
PEDE'S
LOOSE!

KYUTARO!

DON'T...

NO...



DON'T HURT HIM...



HE'S...MY...





Ah...



THE AIR IS
DIFFERENT.

THAT'S
GOOD.

THIS PLACE
IS CLEAN
NOW.





THEN, I LOST
CONSCIOUS-
NESS.



WHEN I
OPENED
MY EYES...

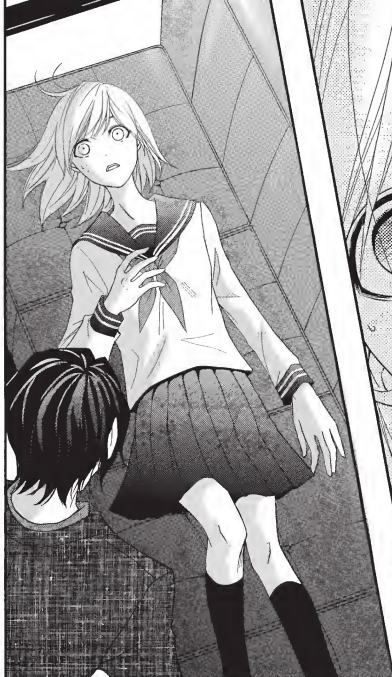


...I SAW...



SWEEP 3





WHEN I
OPENED
MY
EYES...

...I
SAW...



This
delta
region
was the
only part
not black.

Kyutaro... He was nearly completely black with his mask on when he went to The Inside in Sweep 2. There was hardly any part of him that wasn't black. For some reason, it struck me as really funny, and I burst out laughing in the middle of the night.



THANK
GOODNESS,
NISHIOKA...

THE
PRINCIPAL...?

YOU'RE
AWAKE.



DON'T
TRY TO
MOVE...

THIS IS
THE ROOM
I WAS
IN...

TAKE
DEEP
BREATHS.

...IN
THE OLD
SCHOOL
BUILDING...



AND THAT
OWL? AND
THAT HUGE
CENTIPEDE?

WHAT
ABOUT
SAKA-
GUCHI?

WHAT'S
GOING
ON? I WAS
JUST...





NISHI-OKA...

SHE TOUCHED... NO, PUNCHED THE CENTIPEDE... IN THE MIND VAULT.



KOICHI...

LOOK HER OVER CAREFULLY.



JUST LOOK AT US, AND YOU CAN TELL WHICH ONE OF US NEEDS HELP!

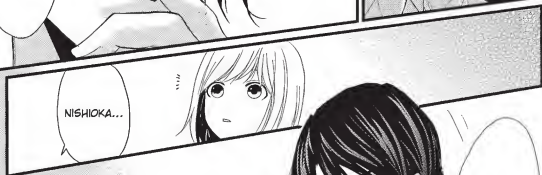


DO I LOOK HURT TO YOU?! HE'S THE ONE WHO'S HURT.

PLEASE CALM DOWN...

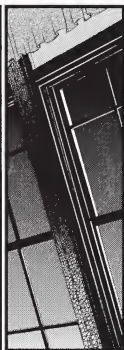
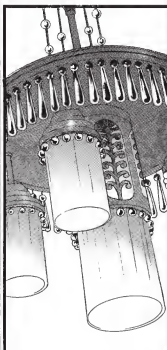
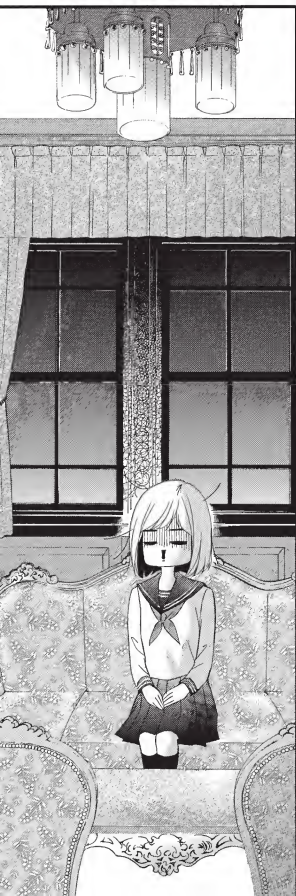
PIPE DOWN... I'M FINE...

HE WAS BITTEN BY A CENTIPEDE, A HUMONGOUS ONE!



I'D LIKE
TO SHOW
YOU OUR
HOUSE.





THIS IS
THEIR
HOUSE?

NO
WAY...

ACTUALLY,
ALL THIS
IS KINDA
SCARY.

I COULD
NEVER
HAVE
ANYTHING
LIKE
THIS.

What's
with that
chandelier?

I KNOW
I KEEP
TALKING
ABOUT MY
CINDERELLA
DREAM,
BUT...

Isn't one
lightbulb
enough?

And he was
dressed
weird...

THEY MIGHT
DRUG ME
AND THROW
ME IN SOME
TORTURE
CHAMBER...

THEY'RE
PROBABLY
NINJAS...OR
DEMONS...
I SAW HIM
CAST A
SPELL.

W
H
I
R
L

THEY'LL
DRAIN MY
BLOOD AND
COOK ME...

AND
THEN...

...THEY'LL...

They probably
even have an
iron maiden.

GASP

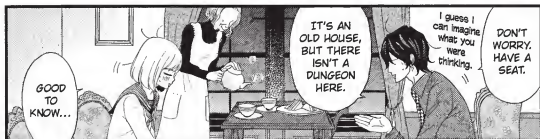
ARE THEY
PLANNING
TO GET RID
OF ME?!

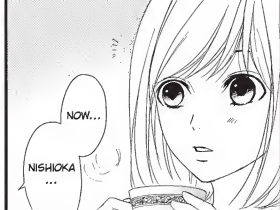
I WENT
IN THAT
DOOR AND
SAW TOO
MUCH?!

WAIT A
MINUTE...
ARE THOSE
TWO
RELATED?

THAT
CLEANING
GUY, IS
RICH?!

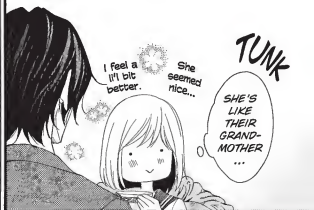
I WAS
REALLY
RUDE TO
HIM.





NOW...

NISHIOKA
...



I feel a
little bit
better.

She
seemed
nice...

TUNK

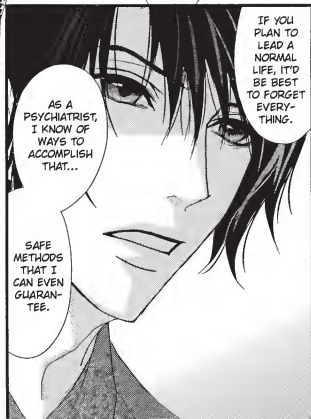
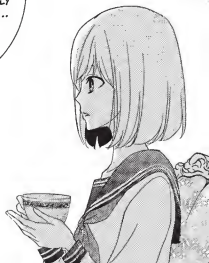
SHE'S
LIKE
THEIR
GRAND-
MOTHER
...



IT'S PART
OF OUR
FAMILY
BUSINESS,
SO IT'S OUR
RESPONSIB-
ILITY.

...FOR
INVOLVING
YOU IN SUCH
A DANGEROUS
SITUATION.

I'M
TERRIBLY
SORRY...



AS A
PSYCHIATRIST,
I KNOW OF
WAYS TO
ACCOMPLISH
THAT...

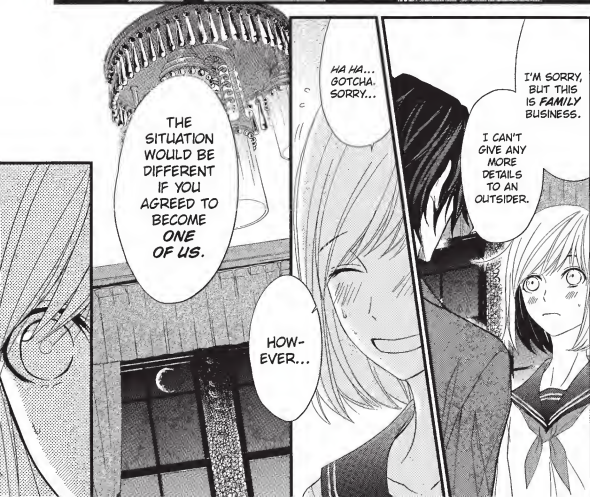
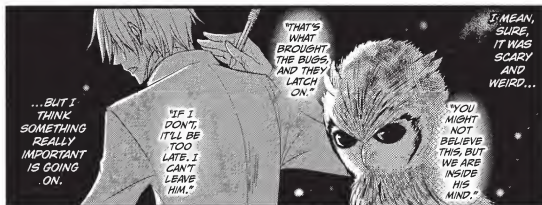
SAFE
METHODS
THAT I
CAN EVEN
GUARAN-
TEE.

IF YOU
PLAN TO
LEAD A
NORMAL
LIFE, IT'D
BE BEST
TO FORGET
EVERY-
THING.



WHAT
YOU SAW
EARLIER
WASN'T
A DREAM
OF ANY
SORT.

HOWEVER,
MOST
PEOPLE
WOULD
FIND IT
DIFFICULT
TO
ACCEPT.





...HELP
KYUTARO
WITH HIS
WORK?



HOW
ABOUT
YOU TAKE
CARE
OF THIS
HOUSE...

...AND...



YOU'RE
LOOKING
FOR A
PLACE TO
LIVE AND
WORK...

...RIGHT,
NISHIOKA?



THAT'S
GREAT
NEWS.
REST UP
TONIGHT.

YOUR
TEMPER-
ATURE'S
NORMAL.

IT LOOKS
LIKE YOUR
BODY
HANDLED
THE
STRAIN.



SHE
SEEMS
FINE.

A LOVELY
YOUNG
LADY,
ISN'T
SHE?

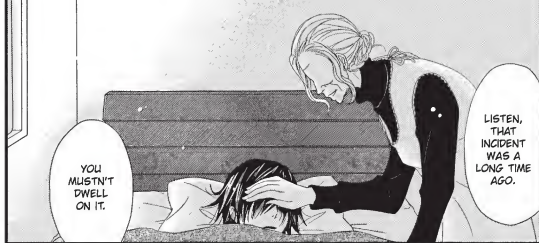


SHE'S
TALKING
TO KOICHI
IN THE
PARLOR.

HEY...
HOW'S...

...NISHI-
OKA?





YOU
MUSTN'T
DWELL
ON IT.

LISTEN,
THAT
INCIDENT
WAS A
LONG TIME
AGO.

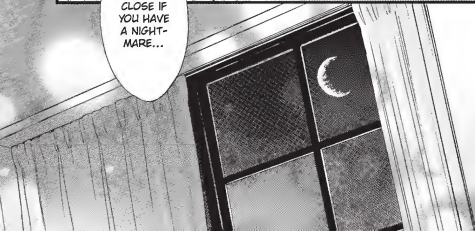
A
SHADOW
WILL SET
IN YOUR
HEART.

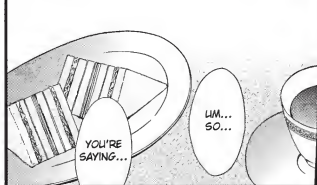
A SWEEPER
CAN'T
LET THAT
HAPPEN,
RIGHT?



SLEEP
WELL,
KYUTARO.

I'LL BE
CLOSE IF
YOU HAVE
A NIGHT-
MARE...







O-O-KAY,
I GET IT.
SO THINGS
ARE
HARD...

WE'VE BEEN
MANAGING SOME-
HOW WITH JUST
THE THREE OF
US, BUT WE HAVE
OTHER JOBS TOO.
SOMEONE'S GOING
TO WORK THEM-
SELF TO DEATH
SOON. SO HELP
US, PLEASE!!

THERE
ARE FIVE
BATHROOMS.
FIVE! FOR
ONLY THREE
OF US!

AND BEING
A FAMILY OF
SWEEPERS, WE
HAVE TO KEEP
THEM CLEANER
THAN AVERAGE.
OTHERWISE,
BUGS START
MULTIPLYING.



BESIDES
...



NO... WE
DON'T USE
MAGIC, AND
WE DON'T SLAUGH-
TER...

YOU GO TO
THAT WEIRD
PLACE WITH
DOORS AND
USE MAGIC TO
CLEAN AND
SLAUGHTER
INSECTS.

YEAH
...

Though
I don't
blame
you for
thinking
that...

Seems
like a
tough
job.



I HAVE
TO ASK...

DON'T
WORRY
ABOUT
THAT.

BUT I
DON'T
KNOW
HOW TO
USE
MAGIC.



YOU
ALREADY
KNOW...

...ABOUT
THE
STRANG-
EST PART
OF OUR
JOB.



I THINK
YOU'RE A
GOOD FIT
FOR OUR
BUSINESS.

WE'RE
SWEEPERS.
WE CLEAN
ANY AND
ALL
PLACES.



DID YOU REALLY PUNCH A CENTIPEDE IN THE MIND VAULT?

WHY DID YOU DO THAT?

THOSE BUGS ARE MANIFESTATIONS OF A PERSON'S BAD THOUGHTS.



I DON'T KNOW... I JUST...

IT'S NOT THAT.

WASN'T I SUPPOSED TO?



KYUTARO IS WELL TRAINED, AND HE WAS STILL HURT.

BUT YOU HIT THAT BUG.

TOUCHING ONE, EVEN APPROACHING ONE, CAN AFFECT YOU.

THE CORRUPTION WILL TRANSFER TO YOU AND AFFECT YOUR MIND.



PEOPLE JUST DON'T...

...NORMALLY.



THAT MEANS
YOUR MIND'S
DEFENSES ARE
ENORMOUSLY
POWERFUL.

AND
DEFEATED
IT.

AND SEEM
COMPLETELY
FINE.



MAYBE
YOU HAVE
SOME
STRONG
OBJECTIVE
IN MIND—

PERHAPS
YOU'RE
UNDER A
SPELL OR
HAVE AN
INBORN
QUALITY.

IT'S
RARE FOR
SOMEONE
TO HAVE
SUCH A
MENTAL
STATE.

IN ANY
CASE...

...I'D
LIKE TO
RECRUIT
YOU.

THIS...

B-
BMP

YOUR
CINDERELLA
DREAM...?

Oh, right.
You
mentioned
it before...

DECLARATION

THAT
MUST
BE IT!
MY
STRONG
OBJECTIVE
!

I LIVE TO
HAVE MY
CINDERELLA
DREAM
COME
TRUE!!

I'VE BEEN
SEARCHING
FOR
SOMEONE
TO BE
KYUTARO'S
PARTNER.

THIS
IS...!

AND
SENDAI IS
SUPPOSED
TO BE
RETIRED.

CLEANING
A MIND
VAULT
TAKES
MORE
THAN ONE
PERSON.

B-
BMP



DON'T
WORRY!
I CAN
DO IT!
IT'S NO
PROBLEM
AT ALL!

IT'S NOT
AN EASY
JOB.
IT'S
DANGEROUS
...



HA HA
HA... NO,
NOTHING
OF THE
SORT.

DOES
KYUTARO
HAVE A
FIANCEE
OR ANY-
THING?

BY THE
WAY, I
HAVE A
QUESTION.

RUB

YES!

HOW-
EVER...

THIS IS
TRULY, THE
FIRST STEP
TOWARD MY
CINDERELLA
DREAM.
SO MY
PRINCE
CHARMING IS
KYUTARO?

I KNEW
HE WAS
PRINCE
MATERIAL
WHEN I
FIRST MET
HIM.

NOT



REALLY?
YOU
ANSWERED
SO
QUICKLY.
ARE YOU
SURE?

UH,
YEAH!

GREAT!
AND
YOU'RE
OKAY
LIVING
HERE?

DOUBLE
YEAH!



HE HAS
EVER SINCE
HE WAS
LITTLE.

THERE
DOES SEEM
TO BE
SOMEONE
HE LIKES...



OH...

WHY
DO I...?



Oh...

I'll
look
some-
where
else.

**F
L
A
T
L
Y**

WHY
DON'T
WE JUST
FORGET
ABOUT
IT?

YOU'RE
NOT
SAYING TO
FORGET
ABOUT THE
JOB TOO,
ARE YOU? ..

NO. THAT'S
DIFFERENT.
I WANT THE
JOB
DESPERATELY.

IT'S
WRONG
TO GET IN
THE WAY OF
TRUE
LOVE.

DID YOU
THINK YOU
FOUND
YOUR
PRINCE
CHARMING?

OH...
ARE YOU
DISAP-
POINTED?

Sorry, I
shouldn't
have
asked...

ACTUALLY,
YES.
I WAS
THINKING
THAT.



I'LL DO
MY BEST.
THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH.

I'M
REALLY
HAPPY
THAT YOU
NEED ME.



THANK
YOU.



WHAT IS
THERE
FOR ME
TO CRY
ABOUT?

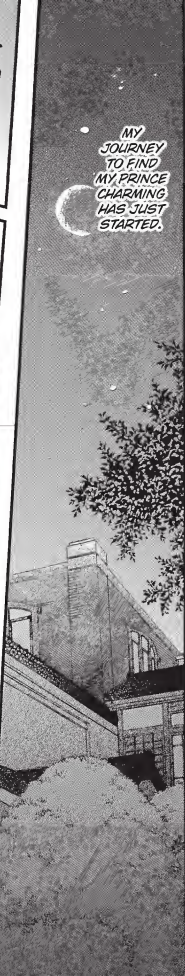
IT'S
GOOD
TO HAVE
YOU,
FUMI.

Incidentally,
I'm not
married,
either.

Oh...
Is that
so...



MY
JOURNEY
TO FIND
MY PRINCE
CHARMING
HAS JUST
STARTED.





I'll wait
on my
dream...
for now.

THE
WORK
MAY BE
HARD,
BUT I'LL
DO MY
BEST.

WHEN I
THINK
OF MY
LIFE
UP TILL
NOW...

U R K



BUT, HEY,
I'M ABLE TO
WORK IN THIS
WONDERFUL
HOUSE.

And the
people are
so nice.



Heh
heh...

YES. I'M
VERY FOR-
TUNATE.



DON'T
THINK
ABOUT IT.
IT'S BAD
FOR MY
HEALTH.

U R K

And my
head
pounds...

NO. WHEN
I DO, I
FEEL LIKE
THROWING
UP.



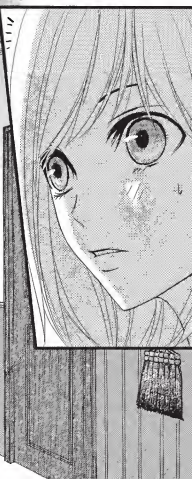
WAS IT
THIS
ONE...?

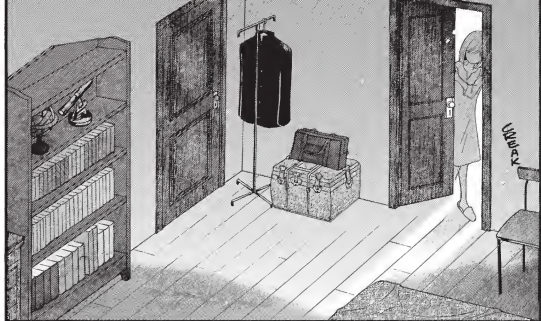
U R K



OH,
SHOOT...
WHICH
WAY IS MY
ROOM?

LET'S
SEE...
THE
GUEST
ROOM
DOOR
IS...





DON'T
GO...

SORRY...
I'LL
JUST...

...N'T
GO...



WRONG
DOOR...!!

THIS IS
KYUTARO'S
CA POSSIBLE
PRINCE
CHARMING? ROOM!



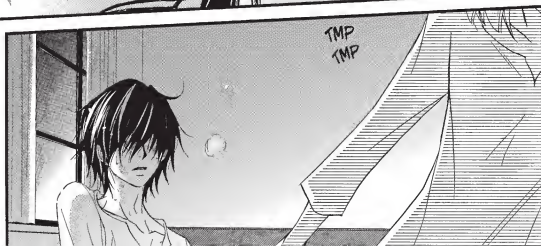
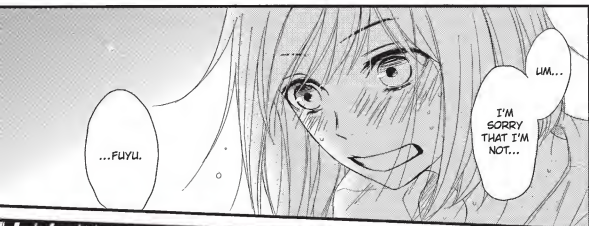


FUYU...

THERE
YOU
ARE...

THANK
GOOD-
NESS...





"FUYU..."



TMP C
TMP A
TMP K



A large, detailed close-up of a woman's face, focusing on her eyes and long, dark hair. She has a slight smile, and her hair is styled in long, straight strands.

"HE HAS
EVER
SINCE
HE WAS
LITTLE."

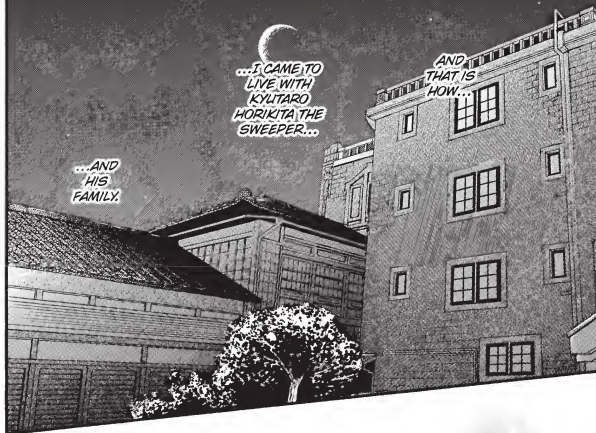
"THERE
DOES SEEM
TO BE..."

"... SOME-
ONE HE
LIKES."

THAT'S...
ODD...

OUR
NAMES
ARE SO
SIMILAR.





...I CAME TO
LIVE WITH
KYUTARO
HORIKITA THE
SWEEPER...

...AND
HIS
FAMILY.

AND
THAT IS
HOW...



AND NOW
BEGINS...

...MY
STRANGE
NEW LIFE
AS A
SWEEPER.



SWEEP 4



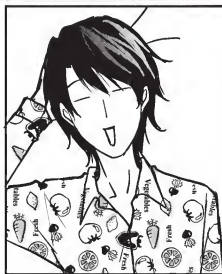
AND
THAT'S
THE
NEWS, Q.

I AM FUMI
NISHIOKA...

...NEW
HOUSE-
KEEPER
AND
SWEEPER
TRAINEE.

A FINE
DAY...

...AT THE
HORIKITA
HOME.



In this series, the principal is pretty young. He's supposed to be tall and good-looking, but his sense of style is sadly lacking. He is the principal, but he's also a psychiatrist. Still, his sense of style is terrible.



YOU'VE
GOTTA
BE
KIDDING
ME!

PISSSED

YEAH,
RIGHT!

Oh,
my...

OOKAY.



DON'T
TRY TO
SMOOTH
TALK ME!
THAT'S
NOT
GONNA
WORK!

SHIT

CALM
DOWN,
LET'S TALK
ABOUT
THIS...

THAT
WON'T
MATTER.

Have
some
faith.



WELL,
THAT'S...

...PART
OF IT.

SHIT
SHIT

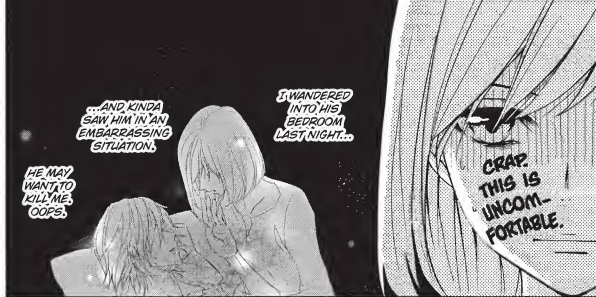
THEN
WHAT'S
THE
PROBLEM?
YOU DON'T
LIKE HER?

THAT'S
NOT
IT...



WHEN
WAS
THIS
DECIDED?
YOU
DIDN'T
ASK
ME!

AND WHY
HER?
SHE'S IN
MY CLASS!



...AND KINDA
SAW HIM IN AN
EMBARRASSING
SITUATION.

I WANDERED
INTO HIS
BEDROOM
LAST NIGHT...

HE MAY
WANT TO
KILL ME.
OOPS.

CRAP.
THIS IS
UNCOM-
FORTABLE.



THAT'S
NOT THE
PROBLEM.

IT DOESN'T
MATTER IF
I LIKE HER
OR NOT.



WILL
YOU
NOW?

I KNOW
HOW TO
CLEAN.

I'LL
WORK
AS
HARD
AS YOU.



IT'S
NOT
JUST
RUNNING
AROUND
WITH A
BROOM IN
PLACES
LIKE
THAT.

YOU
SAW
WHERE
WE GO,
DIDN'T
YOU?



OUR
BUSINESS
IS
CLEANING.

CAN SHE
CLEAN
WELL
ENOUGH?

I'M
SAYING
NO.



IT'S NOT A
FLASHY JOB.
IT'S LOUSY TO
DO, AND YOU
BASICALLY GET
NO THANKS FOR
IT. YOUR HANDS
GET ROUGH,
YOUR BACK
ACHES...

YOU CAN'T
TAKE
THINGS
LIGHTLY!

YOU CLEAN
AS HARD AS
YOU CAN,
AND THE
PLACE GETS
DIRTY ALL
OVER AGAIN.
IT GOES ON
AND ON.



IT'S NOT
WORK
FOR A
KID WHO
CAN'T
HANDLE
HARD
TIMES.

IF YOU DON'T
DO A GOOD
JOB, IT WILL
REFLECT ON
OUR BUSINESS.



I SEE.
YOU'RE
RIGHT.

NO! I'LL
SHOW-

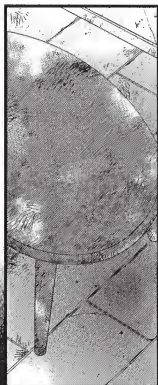
THAT'S
WHAT I
MEAN BY
"TAKING
THINGS
LIGHTLY."

WHY
NOT? DID
YOU RUN
AWAY?
THINGS
GOT TOO
TOUGH?

I KNOW
HARD
TIMES. I
CAN'T GO
HOME-

I MADE
A HASTY
DECISION.

SNARL
SNARL





WITH
SOME OLD
FURNITURE.

JUST A
STORAGE
ROOM.

THIS
IS...?



NOW,
FUMI...



IF YOU
PASS,
WE HIRE
YOU. IF
NOT, I'M
SORRY...

YOU
HAVE
UNTIL
12
NOON.

I WILL
CHECK
ON YOU
THEN.



PLEASE
MAKE
THIS
PLACE
SPOT-
LESS.

USE
WHAT-
EVER
YOU
NEED.

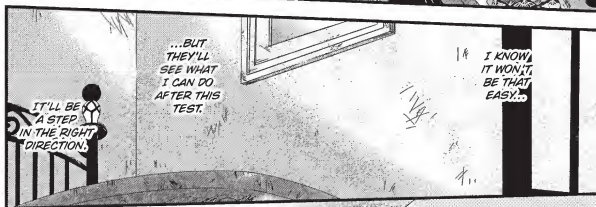
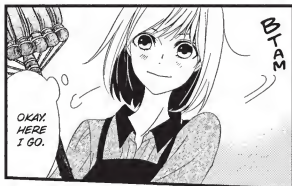
ANY
METHOD
IS FINE AS
LONG AS
YOU CLEAN
EVERY-
THING.



I'll
show
you
what
I can
do!

OF
COURSE
I CAN!

WHAT
DO YOU
THINK?
CAN YOU
DO IT?









SHE'LL
BE TOO
SCARED
OF THE
BUGS TO
CLEAN
ANY-
THING.

SURE,
IF SHE
PASSES.



ARE YOU
REALLY
HIRING
THAT
GIRL?

MAKING
HER
TAKE
THAT
TEST...



SHE'S
DARING...
AND
STUPID
ENOUGH
TO SLEEP
IN THE
OLD
BUILDING.

I DON'T
CARE
EITHER
WAY.

SO YOU
DON'T
DISLIKE
FUMI?



YOU'D
RATHER
SHE
FAILED?

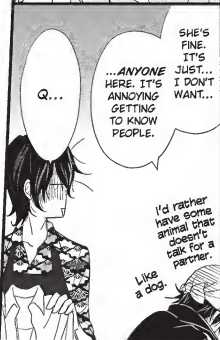
WHY
DON'T
YOU
LIKE
HER?



TWICE
ALREADY
...

SHE
KEEPS
MAKING
MIS-
TAKES.

PLUS...



SHE'S
FINE.
IT'S
JUST...
I DON'T
WANT...

...ANYONE
HERE, IT'S
ANNOYING
GETTING
TO KNOW
PEOPLE.

Q...

I'd rather
have some
animal that
doesn't
talk for a
partner.
Like
a dog.

THEY'RE
GOING TO
TREAT
HER LIKE
A FREAK
TOO.

IF SHE
STARTS
WORKING
FOR US,
THEY'LL TALK
ABOUT IT
AT SCHOOL.
IT'S NOT
SOMETHING
WE CAN
HIDE.

ANYWAY
...

HUH?
WHAT
WAS THAT?

NOTHING.

IF SHE
NEEDS A
JOB, GO
FIND HER
A BETTER
ONE.

PEOPLE
PICK
ON THE
NEW KID.

SO WHY
DID YOU
DECIDE
TO HIRE
HER?

You're
so
weird.

WHAT?

Heh
heh

Heh
heh

HEH...

WHAT?
HOW
IS SHE
LIKE ME?
DON'T BE
STUPID!

AND SHE
TRIED
TO SAVE
SOME-
ONE...

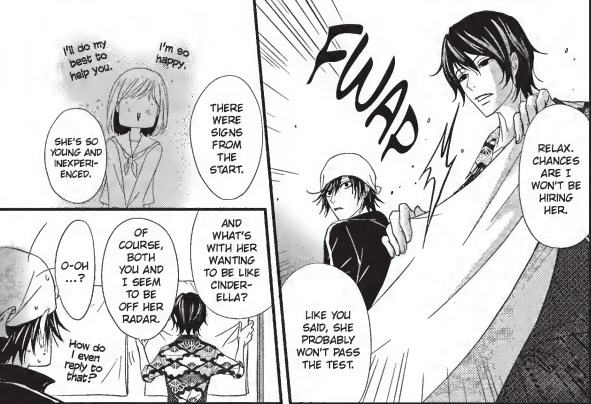
I THOUGHT
SHE WAS
SORT OF
LIKE YOU.

BUT...

WELL...
A COUPLE
OF
REASONS.

I THOUGHT
SHE'D MAKE
A GOOD
SWEEPER.

BEING
ABLE TO
SEE THE
PORTAL
HELPED.





WE CAN'T HIRE SOMEONE WHO'LL JUST BE IN THE WAY.

I FEEL BAD FOR HER, BUT WE'RE NOT A CHARITY, AFTER ALL.



I DON'T KNOW.

I SUPPOSE SHE'LL QUIT SCHOOL OR DO WHATEVER SHE NEEDS TO DO.

THEN, WHAT DOES SHE DO...

...IF WE DECIDE NOT TO HIRE HER?



ORPHANED GIRLS BECOME EASY TARGETS NOWADAYS.

I HOPE SHE'LL FIND A PLACE FOR HERSELF SOMEWHERE.



OH, FOR CRYIN' OUT LOUD!

ENOUGH ALREADY.



NO. THIS HAS TO BE FAIR.

IF SHE'S NO GOOD, I WON'T PASS HER.

SHE'LL JUST HAVE TO DO HER BEST. AS LONG AS THAT ROOM IS CLEAN, SHE'LL PASS.



NEVER MIND THE TEST THEN. STOP IT.

YOU TOLD HER YOU'D HIRE HER, DIDN'T YOU?

HUH? I CAN'T DO THAT. SHE'S ALREADY STARTED.

THEN LET HER PASS...NO MATTER HOW BAD SHE IS.



YOU ONLY
TELL ME
STUFF
AFTER
THE FACT.

QUIT
BABBLING.

Q,
WHERE
ARE
YOU
GOING?

DON'T
TELL
ME...



THEN
LET ME
DO WHAT
I WANT.

I'M
THE ONE
CAUSING
HER TO
TAKE THE
TEST,
RIGHT?



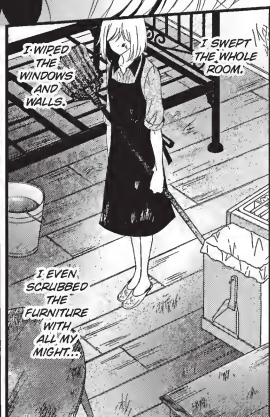
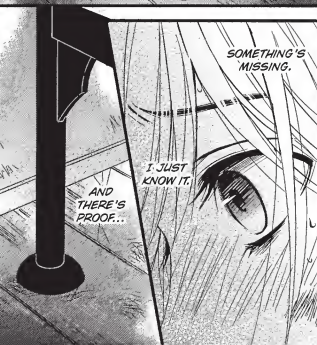
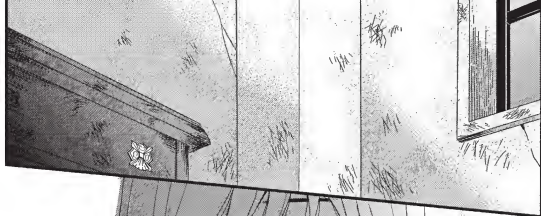
SLAM

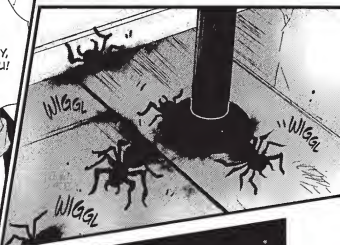
I SCRUBBED
OUT THE
STAINS, SO
JUST RINSE
AND WIPE
THEM, AND SET
THEM OUT IN
THE SUN! THE
LIDS TOO!!

YOU
CAN DO
THE
REST.

BUT YOU
HAVEN'T
FINISHED
CLEANING
THE TRASH
CANS...







"IF THIS PLACE GETS DIRTY, BUGS COME OUT."

I KNOW.



I'M GOING TO FAIL...

I KNOW THAT, BUT...

I DON'T KNOW WHAT ELSE TO DO!

THESE BUGS KEEP COMING OUT. HOW CAN I CLEAN?

TIME'S RUNNING OUT.

NO...



CALM DOWN.

GOING AFTER THEM PHYSICALLY DOESN'T DO MUCH GOOD.

IF YOU WANT TO LEARN, THEN LISTEN.

DON'T JUST GAWK AT ME.

K-KYUTARO ...



ANYTHING WILL DO.

SHH! YOU DON'T HAVE TO SAY IT OUT LOUD.

CONCENTRATE AND FEEL STRONG.

THINK OF SOMETHING THAT EXCITES YOU OR CALMS YOU.

THE BUGS ARE REMNANTS OF BAD THOUGHTS.



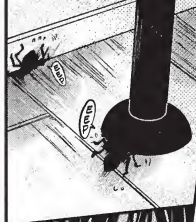
NOW POINT YOUR TOES AND TAP...

...ON THE FLOOR.

HUH? UM...

WOULD PRINCE CHARMING BE OKAY?

THEY'RE COWARDS. SO IF YOU'RE STRONG, THEY'LL RUN AT THE SLIGHTEST PROVOCATION.



I TRIED ALL SORTS OF THINGS, BUT THERE ARE STILL STAINS.

KAZUYA

THIS IS EASIER. YOU'RE ALMOST THERE.

ANYWAY, WE HAVE TO CLEAN THIS ROOM OR WE'LL NEVER GET RID OF THOSE BUGS.

THIS WON'T DO AT ALL...



WHA...

I used magic...

YOU SAW WHAT I DID IN THE OLD SCHOOL BUILDING, DIDN'T YOU? IT'S THE SAME THING.

OF COURSE, I USED THE BROOM HANDLE.

IT ISN'T MAGIC OR ANYTHING.



IT'S A
DIRTY JOB.
YOUR
HANDS GET
ROUGH,
AND YOUR
NOSTRILS
GET BLACK.

I'LL
SAY IT
AGAIN.

THIS
TAKES A
LOT OF
WORK.

IT'S NOT
WORTH
THE PAY.

PLUS,
WORK ON
THE INSIDE
IS SO
DANGEROUS
IT COULD
GET YOU
KILLED.

IF YOU
DON'T LEARN
THINGS THE
FIRST TIME,
I'LL WHACK
YOU. I'LL
PROBABLY
MAKE YOU
CRY.

I'M GOOD AT
CLEANING,
BUT I'M NOT
GOOD AT
TEACHING.

SO IT'LL
BE HARD
FOR YOU.

UM...

IF NOT,
YOU'D
BETTER
QUIT.

YOU
OKAY
WITH
THAT?



YOU...

ARE YOU
GOING
TO HELP
ME?



YOU...
HELPED ME
YESTERDAY
TOO AND...

...
THANKS
TO
YOU...



I'LL
GUIDE
YOU.

JUST
DO THE
BEST
YOU
CAN.

YOU
DON'T
HAVE
MUCH
TIME
LEFT.



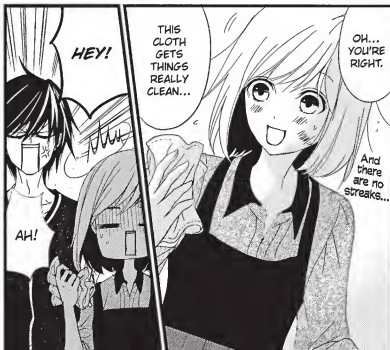
IT'S UP
TO YOU
IF YOU
PASS
OR FAIL.

YOUR
TEST IS
STILL
GOING
ON.

Here.

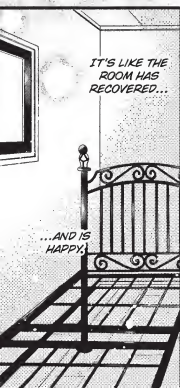
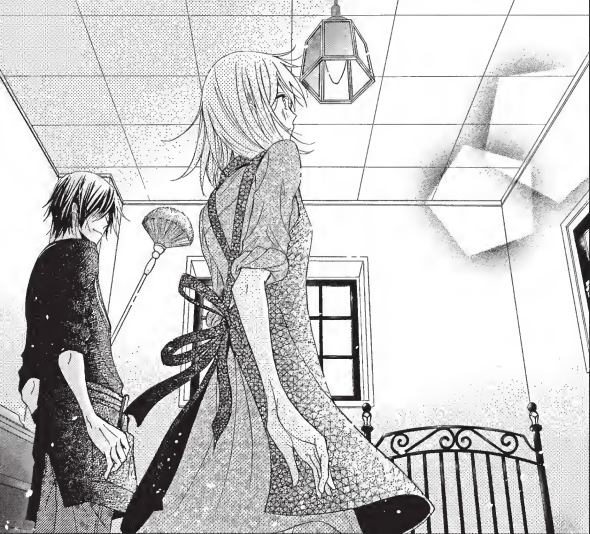
I'M JUST
GONNA
TEACH
YOU.











IT'S LIKE THE
ROOM HAS
RECOVERED...

...AND IS
HAPPY.



...GET
SO
CLEAR?

IT
FEELS
SO
GOOD.

WHEN
DID THE
AIR...



THE
FURNITURE,
FLOOR,
AND WALLS
ARE ALL
SPARKLING.

THE EDGES
OF THE
ROOM ARE
ALL CLEAN
AND NEAT.



MY
EXHAUSTION
JUST BLEW
AWAY!
I FEEL
GREAT!

I DID A
GOOD
JOB,
DIDN'T
I?

JUST A
MINUTE
AGO, YOU
LOOKED
SO TIRED.

LOOK AT
YOU—SO
HAPPY.



IT'S
ALMOST
LIKE THAT
ROOM IN
THE OLD
SCHOOL
BUILDING...



HURRAY!
I DID IT!
LOOK
AT HOW
CLEAN
IT IS!

I CLEANED
THIS
ROOM! IT
FEELS SO
GOOD!

トコロ
トコロ

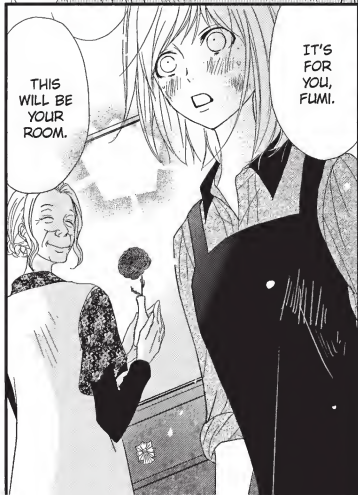
トコロ
トコロ

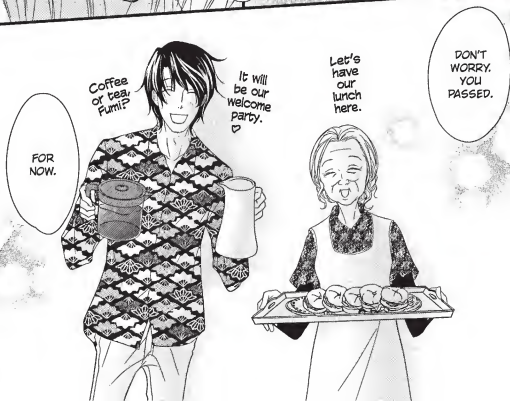


IN THIS
LINE OF
WORK, IT'S
IMPORTANT
TO COLLECT
AS MANY
OF THESE
EXPERIENCES
AS WE CAN.

REMEMBER
THIS
FEELING.

FUMI?







SALUTE

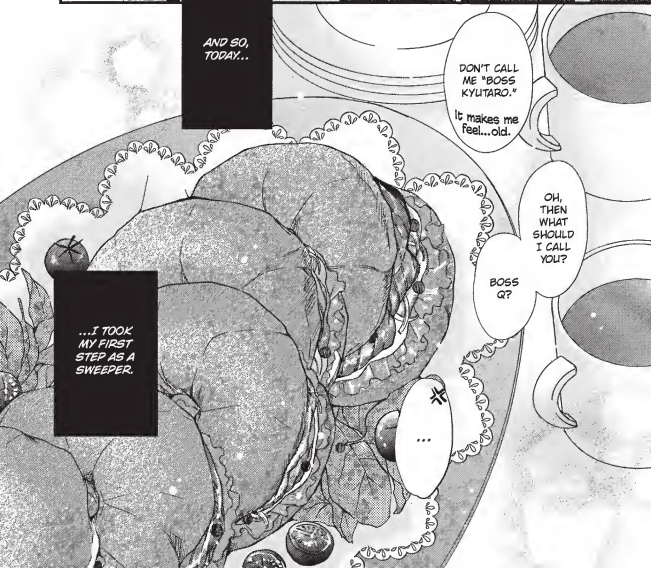
YES,
SIR. I'LL
DO MY
BEST.

PLEASE
KEEP
AFTER
ME, BOSS
KYUTARO!

YOU
HAVEN'T
FACED
THE REAL
THING YET
THOUGH.

IF YOU'RE
NO GOOD,
I'LL FIRE YOU
IMMEDIATELY.

AND SO,
TODAY...



DON'T CALL
ME "BOSS
KYUTARO."

It makes me
feel...old.

OH,
THEN
WHAT
SHOULD
I CALL
YOU?

BOSS
Q?

...I TOOK
MY FIRST
STEP AS A
SWEEPER.

...

SWEEP 5





5:50 A.M.,
HORIKITA
RESI-
DENCE...

The rags mentioned in Sweep 4 are meant to be tossed away after using. Stock up on old clothing or towels cut into small pieces. Use them to wipe up spills and dirt, and throw them away. Use them on small jobs—just wipe and toss. They're all I use nowadays (even though I'm working on this graphic novel).

Take shirts and shorts that you no longer need and cut them up into wash-towel size.





GOOD MORNING.

OH.

S
I
Z
Z
L



SINCE 5 A.M. WHY?

K... KYUTARO ...

HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN UP?

SHOCK

S
I
Z
Z
L



YOU DIDN'T DO A GOOD JOB ON THOSE STAIRS LAST NIGHT, SO I WANT YOU TO DO THEM AGAIN.

NAG NAG

SURE ...

THE TOILETS SHOULD BE CLEAN ENOUGH TO DRINK OUT OF.

NAG

OKAY ...

NAG NAG NAG
It's so early, but the lectures begin...

AND...



YOU'RE IN CHARGE OF THE TUBS AND TOILETS.

I CLEANED BOTH DOOR-STEPS AND STARTED THE WASH.

ROLL
ROLL



YES— BUT IT'S NOT THAT EARLY.

ARE YOU ALWAYS UP THAT EARLY?

This is awkward...



YOUR
HAIR IS
A MESS.

DON'T
BE IN
SUCH A
HURRY.

MAKE
YOURSELF
LOOK NICE
BEFORE
WORK.



IT SMELLS
GREAT.
JAPANESE
BREAKFAST
TODAY?

GOOD
MORNING,
Q...
FUMI...

R-
RIGHT...



I'LL HANG
UP THE
WASH AND
WATER
THE
BACK-
YARD...
...SO
WOULD
YOU LET
GRANNY
KNOW?

GOT
IT.

WHAT
ABOUT
YOU, Q?
LEAVING
ALREADY?

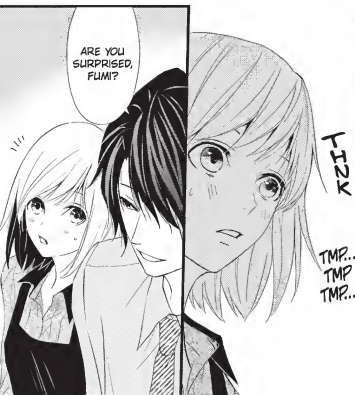
I PACKED
FOOD TO
EAT AT
SCHOOL.

I WANNA
MAKE
SURE ALL
THOSE
BUGS ARE
GONE.

LUNCH
IS OVER
HERE.
PACK
SOME
FOR
YOUR-
SELVES.

YEAH.
EGG ROLLS,
FERMENTED
SOYBEANS AND
PICKLES. DRIED
SARDINES
TOO IF YOU
WANT TO
GRILL THEM
YOURSELF.

YAY!
THERE'S
SEAWEED
AND TOFU
IN THE
SOUP.





SENDAI?

I've heard
that name
before...

BOTH
SENDAI
AND I
HAVE
OTHER
JOBS
TO DO...

...SO
WE'VE
BEEN
DEPEND-
ING ON
HIM TO
HANDLE
THE
MORNINGS.



HE DOES.
I FEEL
BAD
ABOUT IT,
BUT...

A
LITTLE...
NO, A
LOT.

DOES HE
ALWAYS
WORK SO
HARD...
THAT
EARLY?



IT'S
PRETTY
MUCH HIS
JOB TO
WATCH THE
SCHOOL
DOORS TOO.

HE IS
SIMPLY
THE MOST
CAPABLE.

Q IS A
GENIUS WHEN
IT COMES TO
HOUSEKEEPING
AND
CLEANING...

...AND
HE DOES
EVERYTHING
WITHOUT
COMPLAINT.



THAT'S
WHY...

4 a.m.?
That's still
nighttime...

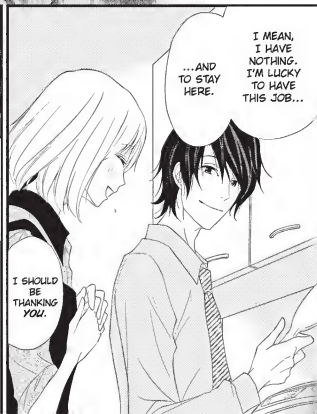
THAT'S A
PROBLEM...
RIGHT?

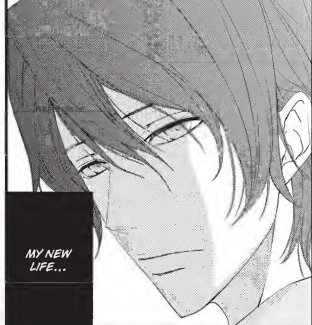
HE WILL BE
THE FIRST
OF US
TO WORK
HIMSELF
TO DEATH.

IN OTHER
WORDS...

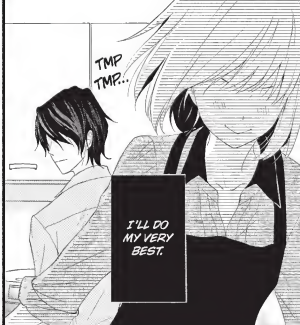
...Q IS THE
MAINSTAY OF
OUR FAMILY
BUSINESS...

As well as
the one in
charge of
our home.





MY NEW
LIFE...



TMP
TMP...

I'LL DO
MY VERY
BEST.



...AS A
SWEEPER
TRAINEE...



...STARTS
NOW.

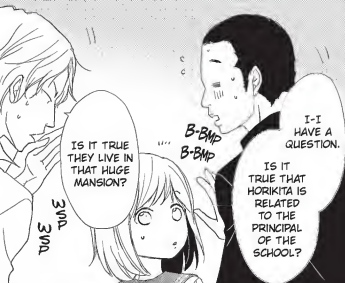


YOU'RE
LIVING AT
HORIKITA'S
HOUSE?

WHAT?
REALLY?



2-D





THAT'S
COLD. YOU'RE
NEIGHBORS
AND
CHILDHOOD
FRIENDS.

I KNOW
NOTHING
ABOUT
THAT
GUY.

SANAKO,
HAVE YOU
HEARD
ANYTHING
ABOUT
SAKA-
GUCHI?



THAT I
DON'T
KNOW...

I HEARD
SAKA-
GUCHI'S
SICK.

SOME-
THING'S
GOING
AROUND.
WHAT'S HE
CLEANING?



YEAH,
BUT HE
OVER-
HEARD...

OH, SO
THAT'S
WHY HE
QUIT
THE
TEAM.

...HIS
TEAM-
MATES
SAY IT'S
HIS FAULT
THEY LOST.



DIDN'T
HE GET
HURT
LAST
FALL?

WELL,
SAKA-
GUCHI'S
BEEN
OUT OF
CONTROL
LATELY.



SO WHAT?
HE'S GOOD-
LOOKING,
AND HIS
FAMILY'S
RICH...

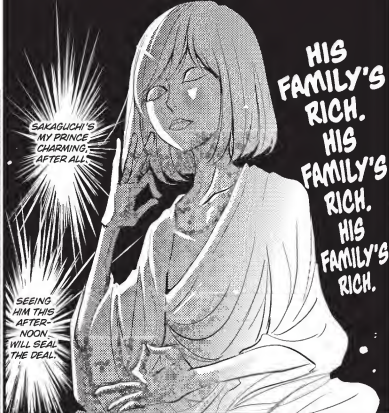
QUIT
GOSSIPING
LIKE OLD
LADIES.



UP TILL
THEN,
HE WAS
A STAR
BASEBALL
PLAYER.

BUT THEN
HE COULDN'T
PLAY, AND
WE LOST IN
THE FIRST
ROUND.

HE STILL
SUPPORTED
THE TEAM
FOR A
WHILE,
DIDN'T
HE?





AT THE OLD
BUILDING,
ON THE
ROOF, OR
IN THE
BACKYARD...

PLACES
LIKE THAT.

Why? You
got a
problem?



NO...
THEY
DON'T...

OR "HE'S
PROBABLY
A GHOST
WITH A
NAME LIKE
Q-TARO."

THEY'RE
PROBABLY
SAYING
STUFF LIKE
"WE DON'T
KNOW IF
HE'S THERE
OR NOT."

I'M USED
TO BEING
TREATED
LIKE A
WEIRDO.

WHERE
THERE
AREN'T
ANY
PEOPLE,
HUH...



**BOLDLY
STATED**

HOPE
KEEPS
ME ALIVE!
I KNOW
THERE'S A
PLACE FOR
ME...

... SOME-
WHERE
IN THIS
WORLD!!

NOTHING
WRONG
WITH
WANTING
A RICH
HUSBAND.



...A
SECRET.
PEOPLE
WON'T
UNDER-
STAND.

WORRY
ABOUT
YOURSELF.
KEEP YOUR
CINDERELLA
DREAM...

I HAVEN'T
TOLD THEM...
BUT WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
IT?



OH.

Can't get anything past him...

I KNOW THAT.

HEY, ABOUT TODAY'S JOB...

What I said was heart-felt...

THAT'S RUDE!

GO AFTER SAKAGUCHI IF YOU WANT, BUT DON'T LET THAT GET IN THE WAY OF YOUR WORK.

FINE. FORGET IT THEN.



IT'S WHERE WE CLEAN THE PATIENT'S HOME...

Huh?

...AND HAVE THE PATIENT HELP CLEAN.

It's really just clearing?

I'D CALL IT...

... "POST-BUG TREATMENT."



SO IF HE STAYS IN AN UNCLEAN ENVIRONMENT, HIS HEART WILL BECOME UNCLEAN?

IT DIFFERS FOR EACH PERSON...

...BUT YES, THEY DO GET NEGATIVE.



IF WE LEAVE THINGS AS IS, HIS HEART MIGHT GET TARNISHED AGAIN, AND THE BUGS WILL RETURN.

OUR MAIN OBJECTIVE IS TO CLEAN HIS ENVIRONMENT TO STOP THE CYCLE.



THE BIGGER THE INFESTATION, THE MORE TARNISHED THE HEART.

AND GIVEN THE SIZE OF THE INFESTATION...



BUT THAT
ALONE
SELDOM
LEADS TO
EXTERMINA-
TION.

THERE'S
ALWAYS
SOME
CAUSE.



YEAH...

Being
clean is
great!
Huray!!

SO THE
OPPOSITE IS
ALSO TRUE?
IF YOUR
ROOM IS
CLEAN, YOUR
HEART IS
CLEAN?

IT'S
SOMEWHAT
EFFECTIVE.



THEY LOOK
INTO THE
PATIENT'S
HEART.

THAT'S WHY
PATIENTS WHO
HAVE BEEN
INFESTED GET
LONG-TERM
FOLLOW-UP
CARE FROM A
COUNSELOR.

TO FIND
A WAY TO
CURE THE
PROBLEM.



ALL WE
CAN DO
IS CLEAN
AND
EXTER-
MINATE
BUGS.

RIGHT.
WE'RE
JUST
SWEEPERS.



WE FACED
DANGER...

...IN HIS
MIND
VAULT...

...AND
DEFEATED
THE CEN-
TIPEDOE...



HM...

THERE'S
NO
EASIER
SOLUTION?



PEOPLE'S
HEARTS
AREN'T
SIMPLE
THINGS.

THERE ARE
THINGS
YOU'D LIKE
TO FORGET,
BUT YOU
JUST CAN'T.

THINGS IN
YOUR HEART
THAT YOU
CAN'T REALLY
UNDERSTAND.

IT'S YOUR
OWN
HEART, BUT
YOU CAN'T
CONTROL IT
WELL.

THAT'S
TRUE OF
EVERYONE,
RIGHT?



UIM...

"FUYU..."



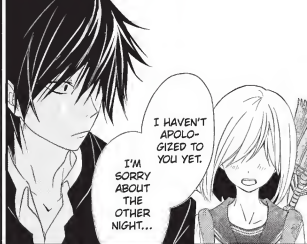


JUST
FORGET
IT.

BUT
I...

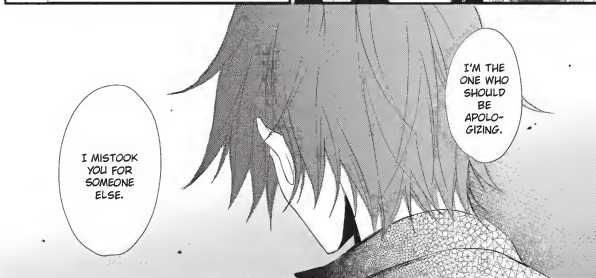
AH,
FORGET
IT.

I HEARD
YOU WHISPER-
ING...



I'M
SORRY
ABOUT
THE
OTHER
NIGHT...

I HAVEN'T
APOLO-
GIZED TO
YOU YET.



I MISTOOK
YOU FOR
SOMEONE
ELSE.

I'M THE
ONE WHO
SHOULD
BE
APOLO-
GIZING.



I'M
SORRY.

I MAY
HAVE
BEEN
HALF
ASLEEP...

...BUT
IT WAS
RUDE
OF ME.



HAH?

UGH.
FINE.
GO.

CAN I
ASK
YOU ONE
MORE
THING?

UM...





I PROBABLY
WON'T EVER
SEE HER
AGAIN
THOUGH.

MAYBE
THAT'S
TRUE.

IT'S
HARD
FOR ME
TO SAY.

THAT
GIRL
FUYU...



SHE'S
THE GIRL
YOU'VE
LIKED
SINCE YOU
WERE
LITTLE...



...ISN'T
SHE?



AS PART
OF YOUR
TREATMENT...

YOU'RE
JUNYA
SAKA-
GUCHI?

... WE
HAVE AN
ORDER TO
ADJUST
YOUR
ENVIRON-
MENT.



FUMI
NISHIOKA.

WE ARE
SWEEPERS
ASSIGNED
TO THIS
DISTRICT...

WE'LL NEED
YOUR HELP
CARRYING
OUT THESE
STEPS.

CLEANING CONTRACT

Patient	Junya Sakaguchi	IT
Contact Information	...	
Details of the Situation	...	

KYUTARO
HORIKITA
AND MY
ASSISTANT...



GET
OUTTA
HERE...

I NEVER
ASKED
YOU TO
CLEAN
MY ROOM!

SHUT
UP! THIS
ISN'T
FUNNY!

WE'D LIKE
YOUR
COOPER-
ATION.

IN CASE OF
RESISTANCE,
WE MAY
HAVE TO
TEMPORARILY
RESTRAIN
HIM.

Please
sign
here.

All
right.

WHAT
THE
HELL
ARE YOU
DOING
HERE?





YOU WILL NOT SAY ANYTHING ELSE.

IF YOU CAN'T DECIDE, SAY, "PLEASE HOLD IT FOR A WHILE."

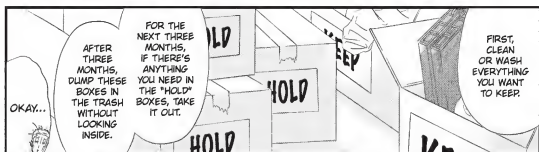
IF IT'S SOMETHING YOU DEFINITELY WANT TO KEEP, SAY, "PLEASE LET ME KEEP IT."



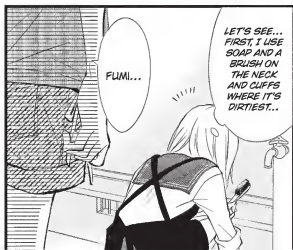
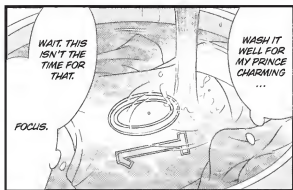
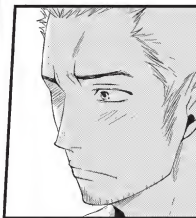
NO!!! PLEASE LET ME KEEP THOSE!!!

NO!!! PLEASE LET ME KEEP THOSE!!!

NO!!! PLEASE LET ME KEEP THOSE!!!



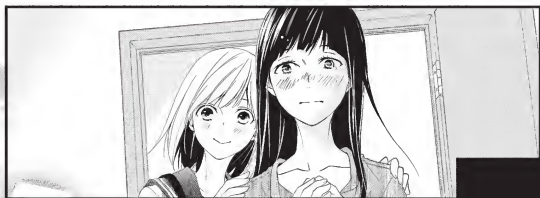
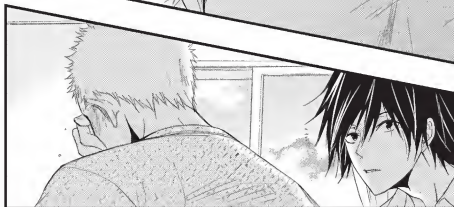
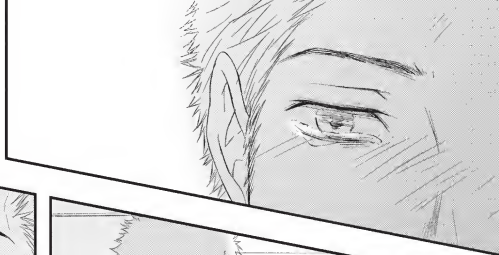








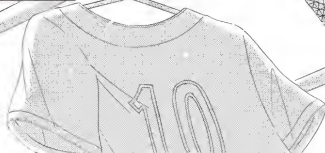




HAS
ANYTHING
CHANGED?

WE
CAN'T
TELL
YET...

REGARD-
LESS...





YOU CAN'T
BLOCK
SOMEONE
ELSE'S PATH
TO LOVE
JUST TO WIN
A PRINCE
CHARMING.

WELL, IT
COULDN'T
BE
HELPED.

BLUNT

AND AT
THE SAME
TIME, MY
PRINCE
CHARMING
GOT AWAY.

...THIS IS
HOW...



Heh

Heh

Heh

Heh

DON'T
BE RUDE,
JUST
LISTEN.

ANYWAY...

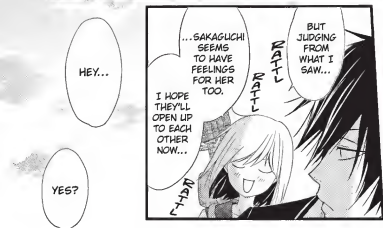
OH
YEAH?
DON'T
CARE.

...MY FIRST
JOB AS A
SWEEPER
ENDED.



SHE
SAID SHE
WAS MEAN
TO HIM
BECAUSE
SHE DIDN'T
WANT
PEOPLE
TO KNOW.

SANAKO
SAID SHE
LIKED
SAKAGUCHI
SINCE THEY
WERE IN
KINDER-
GARTEN.



HEY...

YES?

...SAKAGUCHI
SEEMS
TO HAVE
FEELINGS
FOR HER
TOO.

I HOPE
THEY'LL
OPEN UP
TO EACH
OTHER
NOW...

BUT
JUDGING
FROM
WHAT I
SAW...





YOU DON'T
HAVE
TO ACT
HAPPY
FOR ME.

Even if
it's dumb,
your wish
for a
Prince
Charming
is your
dream!...

DIDN'T
YOU
JUST
HAVE
YOUR
HEART
BROKEN?



I JUST
SAID THAT
BECAUSE
YOU WERE
ACTING
WEIRD!

And don't
say I'm
antisocial!

STUPID...
OF
COURSE
NOT!

You act all
antisocial,
but you're
actually very
kind inside,
aren't you?

KYUTARO...
ARE YOU
WORRIED
ABOUT
ME?

FOUNDED



FORGET IT!
JUST KEEP
MUTTERING
TO YOUR-
SELF THEN,
STUPID.
STUPID!

WHY DO I HAVE
TO WORRY
ABOUT A
GIRL WHO'S
ALWAYS GOING
ON ABOUT
A PRINCE
CHARMING?



THANK
YOU.

KYUTARO
...



I REALLY
AM HAPPY.

I WASN'T
ACTING.

I WAS
HAPPY
ABOUT
YESTERDAY
TOO. AND
THE DAY
BEFORE
THAT.

TODAY'S
BREAKFAST
AND LUNCH
WERE
DELICIOUS...

SAKA-
GUCHI'S
ROOM
GOT
CLEAN...

SANAKO
HUNG
ON...



IT
DOESN'T
HAVE
TO BE
LOVE...

I'VE BEEN
HAPPY
EVER
SINCE.

BECAUSE
YOU
SAVED
ME.



I'M
JUST
HAPPY
THAT
I MET
YOU.

I DON'T
NEED TO
BE THE
ONE YOU
LOVE.



YOU'RE
SPECIAL
TO ME.

I'D
LAY MY
LIFE
ON THE
LINE TO
HELP
YOU.



YOU SOUND
LIKE A
STALKER.
I REALLY
DON'T NEED
THAT.

SHOCK

HOW MEAN!
I SPOKE
FROM MY
HEART.

IT'S
TOO
MUCH.

I DON'T
NEED
THAT.



AGH...
THAT'S
THE
THIRD
TIME!

...BEGINS
NOW...

MY
NEW
LIFE...

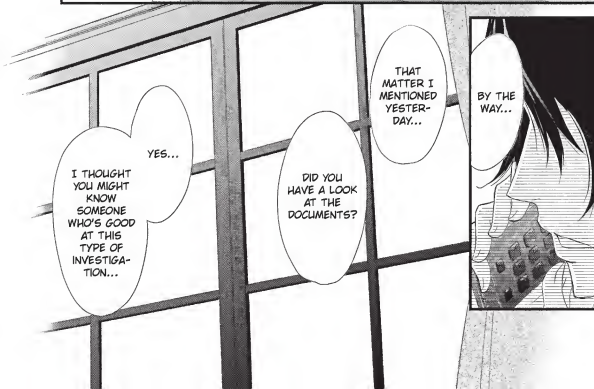
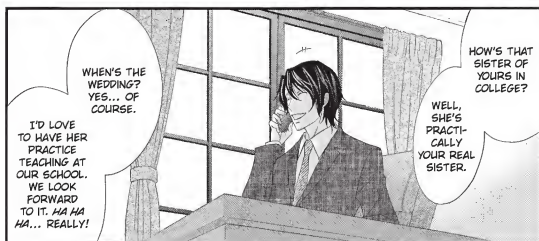
WELL,
I DON'T
NEED THAT.
SORRY.

I JUST
HAVE DEEP
RESPECT
FOR YOU.

YOU'RE
TERRIBLE!
YOU DON'T
HAVE TO
SAY IT
TWICE.

RATT

RATT





YES...
SHE'S
A VERY
NICE
GIRL.

I MIGHT
BE MAKING
TOO MUCH
OF IT...

IT JUST
BOTHERS ME
A LITTLE. I'D
APPRECIATE
YOUR HELP.

I'D LIKE TO
KNOW IF
THERE ARE
ANY ERRORS
OR FALSE-
HOODS...

Fumi Nishioka

PREVIOUS
ADDRESS

FAMILY
HISTORY

*CURRICULUM VITAE
*PERSONAL INTERVIEW

...IN HER
FAMILY
SITUATION
OR
RESUME...

SPECIAL

...AND
IF FUMI
NISHIOKA...

...IS EVEN
HER REAL
NAME...

Afterword

Thank you so much for reading this volume of QQ Sweeper! There's so much that's strange and mysterious in this series, and a lot of the imagery is very dark, but I will do my very best ~~to create the darkest shojo manga series~~, so I hope you will read volume 2 as well. Please take care of yourselves until we meet again.



Send your
letters to:
♡

KYOUSUKE MOTOMI
C/O QQ SWEEPER EDITOR
VIZ MEDIA
P.O. BOX 77010
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94107

最富孝次

Kyousuke
Motomi

"Part-time Counselor Onizuka," who appears briefly in Sweep 5, is a character from my previous series, *Dengeki Daisy*. If you're interested, please read that series as well (16 volumes). It's a story about a high school student who's like a younger sister to Onizuka and a bleached blond school custodian with a Lolita complex.



Oh good,
we can
take a
bath
together.

Don't be
stupid.
Go bath
Kurosaki.

Riko's
away at
work,
so I'm
spending
the night.



I'm Kyouzuke Motomi. In this manga, I take quite a few liberties with how you use a broom. But, everyone...please don't swing your broom around or hit people with it. Really, it's not a weapon.

—Kyouzuke Motomi

Author Bio

Born on August 1, Kyouzuke Motomi debuted in *Deluxe Betsucomi* with *Hetakuso Kyupiddo* (No Good Cupid) in 2002. She is the creator of *Dengeki Daisy* and *Beast Master*, both available in North America from Viz Media. Motomi enjoys sleeping, tea ceremonies and reading Haruki Murakami.

QQ SWEEPER

VOL. 1

Shojo Beat Edition

STORY AND ART BY
KYOUSUKE MOTOMI

QQ SWEEPER Vol.1

by Kyoussuke MOTOMI

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QQ SWEEPER is rated T for Teen and is recommended for ages 13 and up. This volume contains suggestive themes.

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